

Mr Cordle in tears as he quits Commons over Poulson connexion

Mr John Cordle, the Tory MP criticized by the Commons committee investigating MPs' links with Mr John Poulson, the former architect, resigned from Parliament yesterday. In a brief

statement to the House, Mr Cordle said that a group of his colleagues had decided unanimously that he was at fault and, accordingly, "I must bow to their judgment".

'I must bow to judgment of my colleagues'

By Michael Hatfield
Political Reporter

Mr John Cordle, the Conservative backbencher whose links with Mr John Poulson, the former architect, led him to be criticized by fellow MPs for being in "contempt" of the House, yesterday resigned from Parliament.

Only about fifty MPs were present in the Chamber when Mr Cordle rose in his seat below the gangway to make his unexpected statement, which was charged with emotion. At the end of his two-minute announcement he was seen to be shaking and sobbing and was led out of the Chamber by two Conservative colleagues, Mr Peter Miller (Devon West) and Mr Patrick Cormack (Staffordshire, South West) through the doors into the members' lobby and into political oblivion.

None of those MPs present would like to live through the same experience again, for whatever the rights and wrongs of the charges levelled against him, some of which Mr Cordle has challenged, they were conscious that it was a grueling moment of personal tragedy.

At the same time there was a general feeling of relief at Westminster that Mr Cordle, MP for Bournemouth, East, who had been in Parliament for nearly 20 years, had chosen to resign rather than face the possibility of his expulsion after a debate in the Commons on Tuesday. It was a prospect that has filled the vast majority of MPs with anxiety and a searching of consciences as to which way they should vote. Few were relishing the prospect of having to sit in judgment on a colleague.

His resignation, however, has raised other considerations, for he was only one of three MPs who were criticized by the Select Committee on the Conduct of Members, although the strictures on Mr Maudling, the former Conservative minister, and Mr Albert Roberts, Labour MP for Northampton, were in no way as severe.

It was being expected that there would be a difference of opinion, whether Mr Cordle's resignation would assist Mr Maudling and Mr Roberts when the Commons came to decide what action should be taken on the select committee's comments on their conduct.

The select committee considered that Mr Maudling's statement when he resigned as Home Secretary to have been "lacking in frankness" and his conduct to be "inconsistent with the standards which the House is entitled to expect from its members". It was said by Mr Roberts that he too had behaved in a manner which "constituted conduct inconsistent with the standards which



Mr Cordle leaving the Palace of Westminster after his speech.

the House is entitled to expect from its members". Mr Maudling has made it known that he intends to challenge the judgment of the select committee and MPs are expecting, although not all of them welcoming, a combative statement in which he will tell the Commons to reject the committee's report.

Mrs Thatcher, Leader of the Opposition, was informed on Thursday night of Mr Cordle's decision to resign and was in the Chamber when he made his announcement. As he left she followed him into the members' lobby and the two of them had a 20-minute private conversation in the office of Mr Humphrey Atkins, the Opposition Chief Whip. Mr Cordle was clearly distressed and Mrs Thatcher, to use the phrase given afterwards, gave him aid and comfort.

Mr Cordle was then taken by friends down back stairs to an awaiting car to avoid reporters. He made his personal statement after having had conversations with a number of colleagues, some of whom are

Privy Counsellors, and came to the conclusion that it would be in his interests and that of the Commons that he should resign. Earlier in the week he had seen Mr Atkins and the chief whip had told him that if he needed any advice then it would be to resign. Mr Cordle did not return until Thursday night when he said he intended to resign.

In his statement to the Commons he said: "I have now had an opportunity of giving further consideration not only to the report of the Select Committee on the Conduct of Members but also to my own position and that of my constituency as it is affected by the report."

He decided on reflection and as a parliamentarian of nearly 20 years experience that if a group of my colleagues decide unanimously that I was at fault in a matter then I must bow to their judgment. It was not my view at the time that I was doing anything I should not have done. In such matters one can only consult one's own conscience and mine at the time was clear. But my colleagues do not accept this view and I must now accept theirs. In the light of this conclusion

as one whose first duty must be to my colleagues and the reputation of the House I am bound to consider the circumstances of the forthcoming debate on the report. It may well be acrimonious and divisive. My greatest concern is that the good name of the House should suffer in the process. I have therefore decided that the only proper course for me to take is to resign my seat. I propose therefore immediately I have left the Chamber to apply for one of the appropriate offices. I shall therefore no longer be a member of the House.

Although it is traditional practice for MPs not to comment on personal statements, some MPs felt moved to express their feelings and found the opportunity during an entirely unrelated statement on agriculture.

Mr Grimond, former leader of the Liberal Party, said: "Perhaps it would be in order to say a word of appreciation and sympathy for our colleague who has just left us," to which Mr Silkin, Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, replied: "I reiterate my first remark that it is not connected with my statement."

From the Opposition frontbench, Mr Michael Jopling, Conservative spokesman on agriculture, said: "We are grateful for the minister's coming here on what is a sad day but one which will be remembered as one where it has been shown that honour is still a feature of public life in this country."

One of the most damning sections in the select committee report on Mr Cordle, and one which led his Conservative colleagues to believe that, in all conscience, they could not offer him their support, referred to a letter he had written to Mr Poulson.

Written in 1956, Mr Cordle thanked Mr Poulson for the revised agreement they had regarding a razzer, and went on to say: "Over the past 15 months I have done what was asked of me and to the best of my ability, I shall continue with renewed vigour knowing that I am in your hands and under your watchful eye."

The select committee said they did not consider there was anything in Mr Cordle's agreement with Mr Poulson that was in itself improper. But the report went on to state: "He was not, apparently, asked or expected to pursue Mr Poulson's interests in Parliament, but he chose to do so in questions and debate. He was thereby promoting a matter in Parliament for reward it is clear that he saw his activities in Parliament as amongst those that entitled him to be paid more generously than he was being paid."

Cordle profile, page 2

Egyptian jets bomb Libyan air force base

Cairo, July 22.—Egyptian jets today bombed and destroyed the Libyan Air Force base at the Adem, near the town of the Ghat, in the north-western province of Misratah.

The announcement was made by President Sadat, who said the Egyptian nation that his forces had given Colonel Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, "a lesson he will never forget". The Libyan news agency Arra, in a report monitored in Paris, said Egyptian aircraft today attacked the Libyan base. Parachutists and commandos had been dropped on Qasr al Jidye, and Egyptian tanks were attacking Libyan territory on a large scale, the agency added.

It said Egypt took advantage of the surprise attack, coming shortly after Mr Yasser Arafat, the Palestine Liberation Organization leader, who is mediating in the dispute, arrived in Libya to indicate President Sadat's intentions.

Mr Arafat today conferred with Colonel Gaddafi in Tripoli. It was the second meeting between the two men in the past 24 hours.

Later a Cairo military spokesman denied the Libyan claims that Egyptian armour had invaded Libyan territory and that Egyptian paratroopers were dropped on the Libyan border village of Qasr al Jidye.

The Cairo communiqué on the bombing, distributed by the official Middle East news agency Mena, said the Egyptian aircraft returned to base safely.

The spokesman said the bombing was in retaliation for three raids by the Libyan air force today over the Sallum area in which three Egyptian soldiers were wounded.

Al Adem is a former British air base near Tobruk. In his broadcast, President Sadat said his forces, "which I was unable to hold back," were ready to give Colonel Gaddafi "the same lesson again."

"By God, if they resume, we resume," he said.

The Egyptian leader was speaking to the nation on the eve of the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1952 revolution which toppled the monarchy.

President Sadat, who hurled personal insults at Colonel Gaddafi, said: "Yesterday and today we occupied part of his land for 24 hours until we finished our work. This morning our forces returned back."

President Sadat, who described the Libyan leader as a "queer man" and a "mental case", accused Colonel Gaddafi of beginning sabotage operations in Egypt three years ago.

In a clear reference to the Secretary of State, Mr Harold Wilson, he said: "Colonel Gaddafi said: 'an agent of a foreign power which you all know'."

"For whose interest is he selling Eritrea to the blood-thirsty Maghribi Ruffians? (the Arab League)?" President Sadat asked.

The President said two Libyan saboteurs captured earlier had confessed that they had orders to poison the water wells in Egypt's desert. He said the saboteurs were used by the Egyptian troops deployed along the border with Libya.

Reuters, Agence France Presse, AP and UPI.
Leading article, page 13

Mrs Bandaranaike's party is crushed in Sri Lanka election

From Donovan Moldrich
Colombo, July 22

The huge election victory by the United National Party has left Sri Lanka with virtually no opposition.

With only the results of the three-member constituency at Nuwara Eliya to come the United National Party has won 108 seats but the Tamil United Liberation Front has won 17 and Mrs Bandaranaike's Freedom Party has seven. One independent candidate was successful while the United Left Front, which had 130 candidates was eliminated with its veteran leaders and candidates losing every seat they contested.

The rout of the Freedom Party is the greatest in Sri Lanka's history. In 1956 the United National Party under Sir John Kotelawala won only eight seats but the House then consisted of only 95 members.

Among the Freedom Party ministers only Mrs Bandaranaike, the Prime Minister, and Mr Maitripala Senarathne, deputy leader of the party, survived.

The complete extinction of the left wing parties who were Mrs Bandaranaike's allies in the last elections was the biggest shock and seems incredible to political observers.

President Copelaw announced this afternoon that he had decided to call on Mr J. R. Jayewardene to become Prime Minister but under the constitution he had to wait until the last results were announced.

Mr Jayewardene this evening called on the people to cooperate with the new Government by preserving law and order, and to refrain from causing any harm to their fellow citizens.

"The people have recorded their verdict in no uncertain terms," he said, and it has now become my duty, together with the members of my Government, to seek solutions to the problems that face all of us.

Please extend to me your co-operation by preserving law and order and bearing no ill will. Although earlier it had been expected that Mr Jayewardene

would be sworn in as Prime Minister tonight, this may have to be deferred until tomorrow morning. The last result from the three-member rural constituency of Nuwara Eliya where Mrs Bandaranaike's son, Mr Anura Bandaranaike, is a candidate, is not expected until early tomorrow.

Mr Jayewardene told foreign journalists today that he would go ahead with his idea of a grand coalition government of all parties even though the Opposition was negligible. He said he would summon a round table conference to discuss the problems of the Tamils whose Tamil United Liberation Front with 17 members so far is the second biggest group in the new House. Asked whether the absence of an Opposition would be embarrassing, Mr Jayewardene merely smiled.

He said that while bringing down the cost of living was the first priority, he would also immediately cleanse the public service and go ahead with his proposal to have a 200-square mile free trade zone in Sri Lanka.

A strict disciplinarian, Mr Jayewardene said he would formulate a code of conduct for Members of Parliament. During the election campaign he frequently criticized Mrs Bandaranaike for allowing members to attend Parliament under the influence of liquor. Mr Jayewardene does not advocate prohibition but insists on high standards of public and private behaviour by those at the top.

Mr Jayewardene now enjoys more than a two-thirds majority which will enable him to push forward changes to the constitution under which he will become the first president with executive powers in future elections. The president will be directly elected.

The nationalized Associated Newspapers of Ceylon Ltd, which has remained closed since Wednesday owing to a strike by newspaper printers, with new directors appointed by the new Government.

Leading article, page 13

Scenario for a knee-cap job in Italy

From Patricia Clough
Rome, July 22

The scene is almost always the same: the victim leaves his home for work at the usual hour and on the way to his car, bus stop or office, notices two or three young people in jeans standing idly in the street.

As he approaches they pull out pistols, aim carefully at his legs and fire repeatedly. He falls, shouting for help, while his assailants run to a waiting car and are driven off at speed.

A few hours later an anonymous telephone caller informs a newspaper or news agency office that the attack was the work of the Red Brigades or some other extreme left-wing terrorist organization. Occasionally the journalist is directed to a spot where he finds a leaflet explaining, in rambling political jargon, the purpose of the attack.

The 33 people who have fallen victim to this kind of attack have rarely been seriously injured, though sometimes bones are badly fractured. As far as is known no attackers have yet been caught.

The *accoppiamento*, or lam-
ing, as the terrorists call it, is a new and puzzling form of political crime.

It can hardly be said to spread terror among the public, or even among the professions most commonly selected as targets, such as Christian Democrat politicians, journalists and, most numerous of all, medium-level officials in big industries.

Nor has it aroused any noticeable sympathy or support for the terrorists' cause except perhaps among young extremists already open to revolutionary ideas. It does not appear to induce the public, press or victims to consider more closely the terrorists' point of view.

Continued on page 4, col 3

War on Want staff give £150 to aid Grunwick strikers

By Michael Horne

War on Want, the charity set up to fight world poverty, became involved last night in a political dispute after it had donated £150 to the Grunwick strike committee.

Mr John Gorse, Conservative MP for Barnet, Hendon North, who is advising the Grunwick company during its dispute with workers over union recognition, said the donation was "ill-timed and ill-judged."

"If this organization, which I understood was an impartial charity, is now going to show partiality in industrial matters, I should have thought that its charitable function will be closed and that it will be in a position to do so in the future as to donations," he said.

Mr Gorse described the donation as "an inept political move which must damage its activities."

War on Want emphasized that the money was not from normal donations but from its

staff and members of the council of management.

Mr Ian Macdonald, War on Want's international director, said, however, that the charity would now invite the public to contribute money to the Grunwick strike fund.

Mr Macdonald said: "This is the first time funds have been channelled through War on Want to a group involved in industrial action in Britain, although regularly raising trade union and organized groups of the poor in Third World countries. The degree of injustice and hardship may differ, but the basic principles are the same."

War on Want exists to attack the causes of poverty, and the Grunwick dispute demonstrates how an impoverished sector of society is being prevented from improving its own conditions. Many of the Grunwick workers are immigrants who arrived in the United Kingdom penniless, with

only the lowest-paid jobs open to them. It is intolerable that they should be denied the right to join a trade union."

He added: "The Grunwick strikers have shown enormous courage. We commend their tenacity and courage in the face of their action is imperative to the future of other exploited groups, particularly immigrants, who may fear the consequences of joining a trade union."

Mr Roy Grantham, general secretary of the Association of Professional Executive Clerical and Computer Staff, APEX, said last night: "It is only right that a major charity should concern itself with the plight of disadvantaged immigrant workers fighting for the freedom to organize themselves into a trade union."

He said that whereas the strikers' average basic annual pay last year was £1,600, their strike pay during the last 48 weeks had totalled £1,056.

Split on tactics, page 2

Leyland shops abroad for £20m Mini plant

By Clifford Webb

Leyland Cars is planning to import up to £20m worth of automated body welding equipment from Cosmat International for the new Mini plant at its Longbridge plant, with the biggest share expected to go to the German KUKA concern.

Such large overseas purchases will almost certainly lead to protests from engineering and other unions who have already warned the Department of Industry that Leyland could be planning large imports of machine tools.

Labour MPs intend to raise the matter in the House, Mr Douglas Hoyle, Labour MP for Nelson and Colne, described the move as "summer madness". He has tabled a question for Mr Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, asking him for a statement on reports that the group intended to spend several million pounds with overseas competitors.

In a move clearly intended to defuse a potentially explosive situation, Leyland cars yesterday issued the following statement:

"We are charged with and accept the responsibility of ensuring that Leyland Cars becomes competitive in international terms. Decisions on the supply of sophisticated equipment must be based upon full evaluation of technical as well as commercial factors.

Body-in-white equipment (that used to produce the shell of the car) forms 10 per cent of the total investment in the new small-car project (reported to be over £200m).

High-volume automated body-in-white equipment is a field where technical competition is intense and where in general terms overseas manufacturers have extensive experience.

"Leyland Cars has invited quotations from British companies in 10 of the 11 major groups of equipment in body building involved in the new car."

"To date only design contracts have been placed, but it is felt that to be certain, substantial parts of the body-building equipment will be purchased abroad. We repeat that this is only 10 per cent of the total investment in the new car."

Motor industry sources said last night that few if any British suppliers of multi-station, automated welding equipment had the up-to-date expertise or capacity to meet Leyland's requirements.

This was a direct result of the lower investment and production in British car plants which did not justify the installation of such costly mass-production machinery.

Because of the much greater volume in German car plants, up to 90 per cent of body welding is carried out automatically. Leyland is understood to be aiming for about 85 per cent on the new Mini—well above anything yet seen in this country.

It is also suggested that British tenders have been substantially higher than KUKA's. The explanation is apparently that the German market leader is already engaged on similar contracts for other European car manufacturers and is fully geared for the work.

Ford's Fiesta, general acknowledged to be the most controlled car in Europe today, uses KUKA welding equipment at the big Valencia and Searsville plants where the car is produced.

Print unions to back NUJ strike

By Christopher Thomas
Labour Reporter

The TUC printing industries committee yesterday decided to give "full and effective" support to more than one hundred journalists, most of them in Darlington, who are striking in support of a closed shop.

The National Union of Journalists (NUJ) interprets the decision to mean that printing workers will withdraw their labour within a short time, perhaps a week.

But the management of North of England Newspapers, a subsidiary of the big Westminster Press group, said it was awaiting clarification of the decision.

In line with the policy of the Newspaper Society, the group is refusing to concede 100 per cent membership agreements to editorial staff.

The journalists are employed on the Northern Echo, the biggest provincial morning newspaper in England, and a number of weeklies owned by North of England Newspapers. The issue arose over the employment of a sub-editor, Mrs Josephine Kirk Smith, who refused to join the NUJ.

The printing industries committee said in a statement that it agreed with the NUJ's position that a 100 per cent assurance of membership agreement should include the six main safeguards for press freedom suggested by the Royal Commission on the Press.

The unions would now be making necessary arrangements to give their support.

All the newspapers affected by the strike have continued to publish through the efforts of executives and members of the Institute of Journalists (IoJ).

Mr Nicholas Herbert, editorial director of Westminster Press, said last night that the long stoppage at Darlington could prejudice the future of the Evening Dispatch, one of the smallest evening newspapers in the country.

Doctors threaten industrial action

Hospital consultants, general practitioners, community physicians and junior doctors have threatened industrial action over pay, beginning with a one-day national withdrawal of non-urgent services because of alleged Government's incomes policies. The annual representative meeting of the British Medical Association in Glasgow has also agreed that the independent pay review body should be asked for recommendations that would restore doctors' economic status.

Local Labour parties in attacks over economy

Several constituency Labour parties have submitted conference resolutions criticizing the Government's overall economic strategy. Reflation and reduced unemployment are demanded. Only one resolution calls for the conference to reject the economic strategy, the others either view with concern or seek a reversal.

Crown Agents' big loss

The Government is unlikely to recover much of the £85m rescue grant made available to the Crown Agents in December, 1975 to bail them out after disastrous property and fringe banking activities in the 1960s and early 1970s. Losses now total £212m, but traditional services to overseas governments are growing and the Agents now handle deposits of £870m.

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Letters: On coming to terms with Marxism, from Mr. J. W. W. and others; punishment for attacks on women, from Mr. Alistair Sampson; the Labour Party under the communists, from Mr. M. McCann and others.
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Records of the month reviewed by Joan Chissell, Paul Griffiths.

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Parliament opened by Spanish King

King Juan Carlos received an enthusiastic welcome from all political parties when he inaugurated Spain's democratically elected Parliament, eight years to the day after General Franco named him as his successor. The King told the members that their various parties, represented "different ways of understanding peace, justice and freedom."

Discord over Mozart

Violinist and conductor Marius Casadesu has made some headway in a Paris lawsuit in which he is claiming to be composer of the "Adeleide Concerto", attributed to Mozart since its supposed rediscovery and introduction by Casadesu in 1931.

Concordes rerouted

Sonic booms will be prevented from reaching Cornwall, Devon and the Channel Islands when Air France adopts a new route for its eastbound Concorde flights from Washington to Paris. The announcement is due shortly from the airline. Concorde will now start decelerating 150 miles west of Guernsey.

Day of the Scorpion: The Army displayed its new family of tracked reconnaissance vehicles on Salisbury Plain yesterday.

Do-it-yourself prison: A new prison at Highgate, near Bury St Edmunds, which is being built by prisoners, was opened yesterday.

Lisbon: Soares party wins a bitter battle in the Portuguese Parliament over land reform.

United States: President Carter's renewed commitment to human rights stirs his Deep South audience to applause.

Business News, pages 17-21
Stock markets: The FT index closed 43.5, the Dow Jones at 431.5, loss of more than 22 points after the week. Gilt were firm.
Personal investment and finance: Oliver Stanley on Mr Healey's sudden willingness to allow for inflation in the budget. Some hints at the effect of Power's maturities on Cannon Assurance; Margaret Drummond examines investment trust companies in the Back to Basics series.

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HOME NEWS

ameside school plan play provokes court order warning

By Our Education Correspondent

Mr Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has issued a warning to the Conservative Education Society that it is prepared to take the case to court unless it submits proposals for the reorganization of schools in its area by September 1, 1977.

The warning came in the form of a letter from Mr Williams to the society's secretary, Mr. Williams, who is also a Conservative MP. The letter said that the society's proposals for the reorganization of schools in the Tameside area were "inadequate" and that the society was "not taking the necessary steps to ensure that the proposals are acceptable to the community."

The society, which was set up in 1964, has been fighting a long battle to prevent the closure of several schools in the Tameside area. It has argued that the schools are "vital to the community" and that their closure would "cause a great deal of hardship to the children and their families."

Mr Williams said that the society's proposals were "inadequate" because they did not take account of the needs of the community. He said that the society was "not taking the necessary steps to ensure that the proposals are acceptable to the community."

The letter also warned that the society was "not taking the necessary steps to ensure that the proposals are acceptable to the community."

Concorde to get new route to cut booms

From Our Correspondent

The French Government is to announce shortly that Air France Concorde flights from Paris to London will be rerouted to prevent sonic booms along the Channel Islands and over Alderney. Plans are for the new route to be introduced towards the end of August.

The new approach to Paris will be a direct one, from a point 150 miles west of Guernsey and 50 miles south of its present track, 30 miles north of Alderney. The route will ensure that none of the Channel Islands or the mainland of France or England will receive sonic booms from French Concordes.

At present, Concorde start their deceleration over Alderney. Earlier deceleration will mean just over two minutes to flying.

By decelerating earlier and by adopting the new route each aircraft will save enough fuel for its payload to be increased by two passengers. In years operating the increase in revenue from the extra seating might be £400,000.

In recent weeks, as the number of Concorde sonic booms this year was approaching 100, the Alderney Society pressed for an assurance of action to reduce their distress and expressed concern at their effect on the island's historic buildings.

The 1,800 population of Alderney has been subjected to regular sonic booms since Air France began its Concorde service to Washington in spring 1976.

In February, an Anglo-French team of electronic engineers visited the island to assess the booms. It was agreed that although risks to property 20 miles from Concorde's supersonic flight path were negligible, Alderney came very close to the minimum distance for safety.

During the past 14 months protests have been increasing on the island. Mr. John L. Mous, president of the island's senate, has led local protests by lodging a formal complaint with the Home Office.

Yesterday, Mr. Kay-Mount said he was delighted to hear of the airline's intention. It is a relief, he said, that the principles of national insurance, that contributions paid give entitlement to benefits provided other conditions are also met. The National Union of Mineworkers has expressed similar objections to the TUC.



Inmates laying bricks at the former RAF station which they are converting into a prison and detention centre.

Prison built by prisoners is opened

From Peter Evans
Home Affairs Correspondent
Bury St Edmunds

Amid local fears about possible escapes, Lord Harris of Greenwich, Minister of State at the Home Office, opened a new prison yesterday at Highpoint, near Bury St Edmunds. He sought to reassure residents alarmed by the shape of three men on July 11. Only one of the men has been recaptured.

While not able to promise that there would be no further escapes Lord Harris said security had been tightened and arrangements were being made to alert residents in remote places if anything of the kind occurred again.

In its first stage at least Highpoint is a low security prison for people thought unlikely to make escape attempts. Lord Harris said that most prisoners most likely to attempt to escape would never be put there.

It is being built by prisoners trained on the site, an old RAF station better known as Stradbally. Some of its buildings have already been converted into living and other accommodation.

The new prison is part of the Home Office's response to record numbers in prison. In England and Wales the numbers are again at 42,000, a new peak for this time of year, although it was exceeded in October. Mr. Jenkins, when Home Secretary, said that drastic action would have to be taken if the prison population reached 42,000.

The amount of action the Home Office can take is limited by shortage of money. But it aims to build extra places for about 3,500 prisoners up to 1980-81. This is intended to ensure that, if the prison population rises as forecast, the rate of increase in overcrowding will not continue. But if the population does not continue to rise, the aim is that there can be a reduction in present levels of overcrowding.

The prisoners are building accommodation at Highpoint for 500 inmates and a closed detention centre for more than 200 young men. Use of prisoners, rather than awarding outside contracts, is expected to save more than £2m.

The department said that the committee has all the evidence it needs to make its report to the Secretary of State. The NUS, which is particularly concerned at the potential hardship to 9,000 mature students who have given up their jobs to full-time education, said the committee seemed determined to report very soon.

They were concerned that a school leaver could qualify for unemployment benefit before going to college after only eight weeks work, if the gross pay was £41 a week or more. The committee also feared that students would draw two benefits from the state in the form of grants and unemployment benefit. It wanted to know how students could fulfil the availability for work condition before receiving unemployment benefit during the short vacations. Finally, the committee was worried about the extra workload presented by student claims.

Miss Sally Hale, the NUS social security expert, argued that many students did not receive grants because their parents failed to pay their contributions or because they were only entitled to discretionary grants. Students needed to eat, were willing to work during vacations if jobs were available and should not be discriminated against.

Miss Hale also pointed out that the proposals would have the unintended effect of stopping students claiming unemployment benefit for any of the long summer vacations after the first. The committee is expected to report very soon on the Government's proposals.

Students protest at plan to withdraw dole

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

The National Insurance Advisory Committee yesterday took the unusual step of inviting oral evidence from a body that has already submitted a lengthy memorandum on government proposals to stop students drawing unemployment benefit. Representatives from the National Union of Students spent 40 minutes explaining their objections to the proposal when the committee met in London.

The TUC has already objected to the proposals on the grounds that they would breach the principles of national insurance, that contributions paid give entitlement to benefits provided other conditions are also met. The National Union of Mineworkers has expressed similar objections to the TUC.

and five other big unions, including the Transport and General Workers' Union, intend to raise the issue at their executive meeting in September.

The Government's proposals would prevent students drawing unemployment benefit during the short vacations, although the benefit is only due to people who have held enough contributions while in work. The expected saving is expected to be £8.1m, less than one tenth of the present surplus in the National Insurance Fund.

The Department of Health and Social Security was confident yesterday that the proposals would go through, although successive Governments have failed to pass through Parliament regulations that breach the principle of national insurance benefits in return for contributions paid.

benefit during the short vacations. Finally, the committee was worried about the extra workload presented by student claims.

Miss Sally Hale, the NUS social security expert, argued that many students did not receive grants because their parents failed to pay their contributions or because they were only entitled to discretionary grants. Students needed to eat, were willing to work during vacations if jobs were available and should not be discriminated against.

Miss Hale also pointed out that the proposals would have the unintended effect of stopping students claiming unemployment benefit for any of the long summer vacations after the first. The committee is expected to report very soon on the Government's proposals.

A third, however, from Cherrsey and Walton CLP, calls on the Government to "abandon its current wage restraint policy which, in common with those of previous governments, serves primarily the interests of the capitalist establishment, in favour of a planned change to the kind of egalitarian society envisaged in Labour's manifesto."

While those constituency parties want changes in economic policy, there are others who "deplore" or "reject" the pact with the Liberals.

The agreement has never been discussed inside the Parliamentary Labour Party.

Labour's continuing internal troubles over British membership of the European Community is reflected in a resolution from the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staff that urges the Government to "regret the introduction of enabling legislation for direct elections to the European Parliament. It calls on the conference to regret the July decision of the conference that approved the principle of direct elections."

How off road f vehicles

The department wrote back early May reminding the authority that the May 24 deadline was still in force. No proposals came. On June 20 the department wrote again asking a further reply by July 10. That was followed by a further letter pointing out that the reorganization of pools on comprehensive lines now required by law under the 1976 Education Act.

Tameside's victory against the Government in the County Council election in May 1976, when the party was defeated, was a setback for its schools, was a setback for its schools, was a setback for its schools.

fewer young disabled in wards for the elderly

Our Social Services
Correspondent

English and Welsh hospitals last year achieved the greatest reduction in the number of young disabled and chronically ill patients from wards intended for elderly patients. The number in England was almost a quarter and in Wales nearly a third.

The figures have been steady for several years, but the reduction in the number of young disabled patients from wards intended for elderly patients is a significant achievement.

Housewives are gloomy about nation's prospects

By Our Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

Three-quarters of Britain's housewives believe their family income has risen less than prices. To ease out their housekeeping money, 30 per cent are cutting down on eating out, 25 per cent are buying fewer new clothes, 24 per cent are buying cheaper cars, 21 per cent are economizing on home heating and 14 per cent have begun making their own cakes and bread.

The figures come from a research survey carried out for two food industry companies, Knorr and Brown and Poulson. Some 400 housewives in 36 towns were asked about their attitudes to the country's economic condition. For the most part they gave gloomy replies.

Four out of five believed the state of the country had deteriorated in the past year and only 12 per cent looked forward to any improvement in the next year. Although more than half thought the Government was doing a poor job of managing the country, an even larger number felt the Conservatives would do no better.

Fifty per cent blamed the EEC for price increases, 34 per cent other people's wages, 25 per cent the Government. Only 12 per cent still thought price rises were all the fault of bad weather.

The food companies say a better understanding of housewives' attitudes to the country's economic health will assist in marketing and product development. The results suggest there may be new emphasis soon on economy cuts, penny-pinching stews and cheap fillers.

Bad debts of over £10 still to be registered

By Our Consumer Affairs
Correspondent

The register of county court judgments on bad debts is to continue to list all judgments for £10 or more which remain unsatisfied for 28 days. Mr. Arthur Davidson, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of the Law Officers' Department, told the Commons yesterday that the Government would accept an Opposition amendment to this effect during the committee stage of the Administration of Justice Bill.

Last year the Lord Chancellor proposed to abolish the registry because of the need to cut public expenditure, and protect privacy. When this scheme was abandoned, in face of protests from the credit industry who rely largely on information obtained from the register, it was proposed to raise the limit on records from £10 to £50, subsequently amended to £30.

The credit industry based their opposition to the proposed changes on the importance of having official information to enable them to make decisions on whether to supply credit. They might use less reliable sources.

Pilot's dismissal 'like manna from heaven'

The British Airline Pilots' Association (BALPA) was waiting for a cause célèbre in its efforts to recruit members at the Aberdeen base of British Helicopters, an inquiry in Glasgow was told yesterday.

The dismissal of Captain Peter Royston for refusing to fly a helicopter to a man from heaven, Captain David Smith, a supervisory captain at the company's base, said.

The inquiry is into the strike by more than 50 pilots in April and May last.

Captain Smith said Captain Philip Barrable, a BALPA member, had told him that Captain Royston's case "was a case which BALPA were just waiting to latch on to, that they were rubbing their hands with glee."

Of the Malaysia posting, he said: "It is a plum posting, with excellent working conditions and a good, tax-free salary."

First Officer Gordon Woods, one of the strike pilots of Kennedy, near Aberdeen, said: "A lot of the attitudes were rather extreme and uncompromising. I got the distinct impression that it was a somewhat one-sided vendetta against the chairman."

He thought the offer of Mr. Alan Bristow, the chairman, to Captain Royston of three months' salary and access to the company's grievance procedure, was reasonable.

cordings ome Secretary ges editor to turn for inquiry

Mr Maurice Jones, editor of the *Western Mail*, was urged by the Home Secretary, yesterday to return to England in East Germany for his investigations against the police to be investigated.

Rees said there was no need for anyone to put the inquiry on hold, other than that there was no one to put the inquiry on hold.

Mr Jones, aged 33, a communist, disappeared after being seen on the Grunwick picket line last month and later gave political asylum in East Germany.

Mr Rees, visiting West Yorkshire, said the affair was "like the Marie Celeste".

He said that police had been investigating Mr Jones for some time.

He dismissed any idea that the police station, where Jones was taken after his arrest, had files on him. Mr Jones alleged in a letter to Mr. Hugh Scargill, the Yorkshire Labour leader, that his family had been threatened by police.

A newspaper report that people who were not policemen called at Mr Jones's house in Sheffield, was being looked into.

Mr Rees said it would be a good thing if the police at view if Mr Jones agreed to an inquiry. But none has to put the allegations on hold. "No one had been in touch with the Home Office about the affair, apart from the official parliamentary questions."

Mr Rees continued: "Rumour is a liar and may be ascribed but evidence has to be looked at. At the moment there is no evidence at all. The allegations are like the Marie Celeste. I know of what I have read in the papers."

Mozart blocked out sound of Harewood crash

Lord Harewood was cleared at Bow Street Magistrates' Court yesterday of two motoring offences. He successfully claimed that he did not realize he had backed into a parked car because he was listening to a Mozart record on his car radio.

Lord Harewood said he might have confused the sound of a burglar alarm, which was set off on his parked car, with a sustained clarinet note.

Mr. David Barn, the magistrate, said he accepted the explanation and dismissed two summonses alleging that Lord Harewood failed to stop after an accident which caused damage to the parked MG, and also with failing to report an accident.

Mr. Douglas Day, for the prosecution, said Lord Harewood's Jaguar hit the MG while reversing behind the Coliseum Theatre. Witnesses saw the MG rock and the burglar alarm sounded. Lord Harewood had driven off but a witness took his number, CAH 21.

Lord Harewood of Clifton Hill, London, said he was unaware of the accident.

Radioactive tests show lake water is not a hazard

From a Special Correspondent
Whitehaven

Tests to ascertain the content of the radioactive isotope, tritium, in the water of the Cumbrian lakes which supply Manchester with drinking water, have been completed. The results show that the isotope content is below the detectable level of 10,000 becquerels per litre of water.

The result of a test on Thirlmere was announced at the Windscale inquiry on Thursday and yesterday the inquiry was told of findings on samples taken from Ullswater, Windermere and Haweswater, which also supply Manchester. Content was also below the detectable level.

The tests were ordered earlier this week by Mr Justice Parker, the inquiry judge, after a suggestion that the water might be affected.

The samples are to be sent to the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority's research establishment at Harwell for analysis, but Mr Justice Parker appears to be satisfied that the drinking water presents no hazard.

"Subject to some very strange happenings, this would appear to conclude the business of the Manchester water supplies," he said.

Water samples were also taken from Bassenthwaite and Cumbria, which do not supply Manchester. In those the tritium content was also below the detectable level.

Double murder charge

Gary Kemp, aged 19, a store operative, of Plumpton Avenue, Hornchurch, Essex, was remanded in custody for a week by magistrates at Grays, Essex, yesterday charged with the murders of Mrs Joan Smith, aged 36, at Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, and Coral Vidler, aged 16, at Hornchurch.

British lung cancer rate 'at its maximum'

Lung cancer deaths in Britain have levelled off during the past five years because the rate is at its maximum, Professor Bernard Benjamin, of London, said in Geneva yesterday after studying death rates in 60 countries.

Professor Benjamin, a statistician who carried out the study for the Geneva-based World Health Organization, described Britain as the worst country for lung cancer deaths.

His report, published this week, said nearly one man in 10 over the age of 45 died from lung cancer in Britain. For women the figure was one in 50. His study described cigarette smoking as "the factor to which lung cancer is not only strongly related, but related in a rising gradient with the amount of smoking."—Reuter.

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Search for a way to reverse the decline in pit productivity

By Roger Berthoud

For the past three years the overall production and, more important, the productivity of Britain's miners have been in decline. The disappointment of the National Coal Board's chairman, Sir Derek Ezra, over this decline was evident as he warned housewives on Wednesday that they could face a coal shortage next winter unless productivity improved.

In fact the productivity of British miners compares favourably with that of their French and Belgian counterparts, but it is comfortably exceeded by the West German miners. According to EEC statistics, which include only underground workers, average output per man-shift was 83 cwt in West Germany in April 1977, against 68 cwt in Britain. The Germans operate fewer mines, about 190 in 1975, against Britain's present total of 220.

What is more alarming to the National Coal Board is the growing gap between actual and potential production in Britain. In the peak year of 1972-73, productivity was 45.8 cwt a man-shift (including 127 million tons). In the last year, it was 34.6 cwt, with a total production of 119 million tons. Sir Derek pointed out that increased productivity is inevitable, with technologically more advanced mines. The average age of existing ones is 70 to 80 years and most were built out of the pick and shovel approach. The new pits at Royton near Barnsley, by contrast, has two or three times the present average rate of productivity.

But, meanwhile, it is generally agreed, an incentive is needed at human level. The history of recent attempts to introduce a bonus scheme suggests a strong fear among miners of being divided and a return to the bad old days of piece rates, when the rule was: no coal, no money.

In 1974 the National Union of Mineworkers, the National Coal Board and the Government got together to discuss the industry's future. The Government accepted the NCB and NUM's joint document, *A Plan for Coal*, designed to reverse the decline in capacity and meet potential demand of 150 million tons a year by 1985. As part of the agreement, the NCB and NUM undertook to introduce an effective incentive scheme to raise productivity.

The NCB duly worked out a locally-based incentive scheme, in which each pit was to be assessed according to its geological and other factors, thus eliminating any unfair advantages gained by favouring certain pits. In agreement with the NUM, each pit was set a standard, with bonus payments starting when 75 per cent of that standard was reached.

But in 1975, the NUM rejected this scheme on the grounds that it would set miners against miners and would be a temptation to ignore safety regulations. It advocated instead a national production bonus scheme. That provided extra bonus payments according to the extent to which a national target was exceeded.

Only in the first quarter was the target exceeded, giving a bonus of around £2.90 a week. Subsequent targets were never passed.

In April of this year, the NUM's national executive committee accepted a pit-and-area scheme devised by a union working party. It was that scheme, not dissimilar to the NCB's pit-by-pit scheme, that the NUM conference threw out unexpectedly at its conference at Tynemouth earlier this month.

Explaining the fall in productivity and the attitude to the incentive scheme, Mr. Joe Whelan, financial secretary of the Nottingham area of the NUM, said yesterday: "You can't have a social contract which is designed to reduce living standards of miners as well as of the rest of the population, and at the same time have everyone enthusiastic about increasing production when they can't see any beneficial results coming to them from doing so."

Equally, he thought, too many miners were becoming colliery officials to get an extra 10 per cent. The main reason why the incentive scheme had been defeated by a narrow margin was that it would have eroded unity. Different areas would have earned different amounts of money. But he agreed that there was still a commitment to seek an effective incentive scheme. The NCB considers the ball to be in the miners' court.

WEST EUROPE

Soares party wins bitter battle over land reform

From José Shercliff
Lisbon, July 22

Portugal's Socialist Government won its most important parliamentary victory early today when its land reform Bill was passed by 186 votes to 86.

A last-minute decision by the Socialist Democratic Party (PSD) to vote for the Bill put the issue beyond any doubt. There were no abstentions.

The four-day debate in front of crowded public galleries became increasingly acrimonious as Communist and Christian Democrats disputed the Bill clause by clause with the Socialists.

The daily newspaper *Diário de Notícias* described the vote as "a tremendous and decisive blow to communist influence in Alentejo."

Alentejo is the southern province of Portugal where land reform has been largely under communist direction. The new law seeks to break up the big estates, expropriate land from absentee landlords, increase production and improve the lot of the rural worker.

The Bill was compiled largely by Senhor Antonio Barreto, the Minister of Agriculture, who at the close of the debate claimed that his party's victory would bring justice and security for the land workers.

Resistance to the measure by communists in Alentejo is not dissipated. The past President Eanes has told the armed forces that their peacetime mission is to help to keep law and order and it is understood they will be used if necessary to implement the land reform.

It is significant that the Social Democrats, who did not make their intentions clear until voting time, should have supported the Socialists, because Dr. Francisco Sá Carneiro, the Socialist Democrat leader, is known to have been at loggerheads with Dr. Mario Soares, the Prime Minister.

Police jailed in Madrid on sedition charge

From Our Correspondent
Madrid, July 22

A court martial jailed five policemen here today on charges of sedition for taking part in an unauthorized demonstration. Three other police were acquitted.

Severino Escudero Martínez, of the security police, received the heaviest sentence of six years and a day. Sentences of three years were imposed on two civil guards and sentences of two years on a third civil guard and another policeman.

Italian couple charged with complicity in Corfu raid

From Our Correspondent
Rome, July 22

The Italian police were checking today the statements of an Italian journalist and his girl friend who were arrested in Rome last night in connexion with an armed robbery last Saturday at a Corfu holiday camp in which a water-ski instructor was killed.

Signor Alessio Monselles, aged 35, and Signorina Daniela Valle, aged 19, were arrested at the request of the Greek authorities and charged with complicity in the robbery.

The police are still searching for three Frenchmen who are said to have stolen £300,000 and a number of passports at the Club Méditerranée camp and made off on board Signor Monselles's yacht.

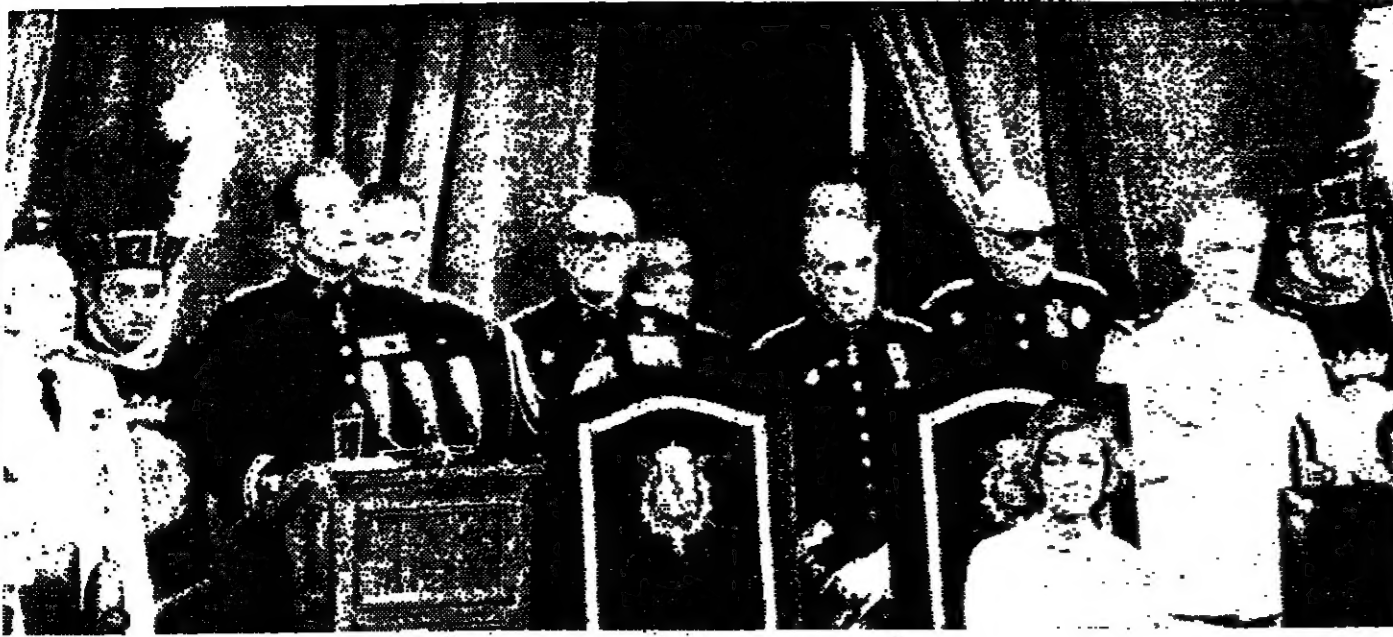
Signor Monselles is reported to have told the police that he had hired his yacht to the three Frenchmen and taken them on a tour of some Greek islands before arriving at Corfu on Friday.

Injured Naafi man 'stepped in front of lorry'

Düsseldorf, July 22—Sidney Carter, aged 54, a retired lieutenant-colonel on trial here for running over and paralysing a union picket outside a Naafi depot in Krefeld, was said to have felt a bump while driving but thought he had hit a gate post and drove on.

A Naafi administrative official he is charged before a court martial with causing bodily harm by wilful neglect to Mr Peter Leadley, a Naafi manager and 26-year-old strike picket, who is now paralysed from the waist down.

In a signed police statement presented by the prosecution, Mr Carter was reported to have said that he did not know he



King Juan Carlos addressing the Cortes yesterday during its inaugural session.

Spanish King opens democratic Parliament

From Harry Debelius
Madrid, July 22

King Juan Carlos referred to himself publicly as a "constitutional monarch" for the first time here today when he formally inaugurated Spain's new democratically elected Cortes (Parliament), eight years to the day after General Franco named him as his successor in the same building.

Dressed in the black full-dress uniform of a captain general, Spain's highest military rank, the 39-year-old monarch won applause even from Señora Dolores Ibarruri, the Communist Party president and famous "Pasionaria" of Civil War days, who is once again a member of Parliament as she was under the second republic.

In his brief speech the King told the nearly 600 members of the Congress of Deputies and Senate meeting in joint session in the same chamber which had been used by General Franco's rubber-stamp parliament: "The different ideologies represented here are nothing more than different ways of understanding peace, justice, freedom and the historic reality of Spain. In their diversity, they respond to the same ideal—understanding and comprehension for all—and they are motivated by the same impulse: love for Spain."

He was the first to speak, and his words were greeted with a roar of approval. The King then turned to the members of the Cortes and said: "I am pleased to see that the peace and the unity of the nation are preserved. Most of the MPs were a tie, one exception being

Senator Luis Maria Xirriach, a Roman Catholic priest who has distinguished himself as an advocate of Catalanian home rule."

The King spoke for only 16 minutes, but his words were the most democratic heard by a plenary session of Parliament for nearly four decades. He made no reference to the anniversary of his appointment, but he did say that only a little over 18 months ago he had appeared in the same chamber to announce a commitment which he saw fulfilled today: "the peaceful establishment of democratic coexistence based on respect for the law as a manifestation of the sovereignty of the people."

Throughout his speech the King spoke in the first person plural, but it was obvious from the context that he meant "we the people" rather than the

royal "we". After it was over, Señor Enrique Tierno Galván, president of the Popular Socialist Party said he had expected him to be more distant.

Although the King pointed out that he was non-partisan, he had no hesitation in identifying himself with the sweeping process of democratic reform which has been carried out in Spain since the death of General Franco 20 months ago. "The Crown," he said, "feels satisfaction following the recent elections for the legislature, about the manner in which the aims which it formulated not so long ago are being achieved."

Outside the Cortes building, several small groups were broken up by police as they tried to demonstrate. They included falangists, homosexuals and republicans.

Discord over 'Mozart' concerto

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, July 22

The violinist and conductor Marius Casadesu has made a small step forward in the court case in which he is seeking credit as the author of the so-called *Adelaide Concerto*, attributed to Mozart, since it was mysteriously "rediscovered" 46 years ago.

M. Casadesu, aged 34, has brought suit against the Parthe Marconi-EMI company, which last year reissued a recording of the *Concerto in D for violin and orchestra* (Kochel 294A) made by Yehudi Menuhin in 1934 and since established as one of the world's most successful classical recordings.

It was M. Casadesu who introduced the concerto at a concert in 1931 as a work based on unfinished manuscripts by Mozart. He registered the work, claiming copyright for the orchestration and "modernisation", and on this basis received

cover credits and payments for the Menuhin recording from His Master's Voice in the first reproductions since 1934.

But these stopped when the company's catalogue was taken over last year by Parthe Marconi, which reissued the record without giving him credit, according to M. Casadesu.

Parthe Marconi undertook to make good its mistake, but M. Casadesu felt it was taking too long. Hence his court action and the related claim to full authorship of the work. He is demanding seizure of all copies of the Menuhin record in stock, 50,000 francs (about £5,000) damages and acknowledgment of his authorship on future recordings.

Although the court today declared itself incompetent in determining the authorship of the work, it gave M. Casadesu limited satisfaction by appointing a judicial administrator to find out the number of the

copies of the record sold without bearing his name last year. Whenever the outcome of the court action, it appears that the musician has for 46 years fooled international experts with the concerto.

His counsel told the court that M. Casadesu had not dishonestly tried to stage a hoax.

In 1931, when he was 38, he composed the concerto in the style of Mozart just for the fun of it. When it was privately performed several of his friends and critics were certain it to be a rediscovered work.

M. Casadesu found himself in a dilemma. He refrained from revealing the identity of the composer, he says, for fear of exposing the experts, and merely registered the work with the Society of Authors and limited satisfaction by appointing a judicial administrator to find out the number of the

Concorde TV protest embarrasses French left

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, July 22

A French television news studio last night by 50 communist demonstrators protesting against the delay in the granting of landing rights for the Concorde supersonic airliner in New York was condemned today by several left-wing organizations.

The demonstrators, all workers from the Aerospatiale company which builds Concorde in partnership with the British, occupied the studio just as the 8 pm news was about to be read.

They unfurled banners, threw dozens of little paper Concorde around the studio and tried to force M. Roger Gicquel, the news reader, to deliver a statement in favour of the aircraft, condemning the New York delay and accusing the French Government of "gambling on silence and time to bring about its quiet suppression."

M. Gicquel refused to comply and the broadcast was then cut off. Half an hour elapsed before the demonstrators agreed to leave the studio, during which time the television screen was blank.

When M. Gicquel resumed his reading of the news, he said that he had refused to read the statement under "such intolerable pressure" and that his colleagues joined him in protesting against "this serious attack on freedom of information and the exercise of their profession."

However, this would not prevent them from examining any new proposals the Communist Party might have to make on Concorde in the future.

The incident has been condemned by the television journalists' organization and the left-wing CFDT trade union confederation. It has considerably embarrassed the Socialist Party and Left-wing Radicals who are allied with the Communist Party in an electoral pact. While condemning the alleged lack of objective information from the media, they said in separate statements that commando operations were not the way to remedy it.

The Government has ordered an immediate police investigation into the affair and M. Jean Lecanuet, the director of the First Channel on which the interruption took place, announced that he had begun legal proceedings against those responsible.

The communists themselves are unrepentant. A party spokesman said that the operation could not be condemned as a violation of freedom of information because this did not exist in France.

Portisch takes lead in world chess

Geneva, July 22—Lajos Portisch of Hungary beat Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union in the eighth of their 16-game world chess semi-final. Portisch now leads by 4 points to 31.

OVERSEAS

Washington starts to question Beigin view of Middle East

From Patrick Brogan
Washington, July 22

Mr. Menachem Beigin came to the United States a week ago on a mounting wave of American enthusiasm and credibility. The criticisms heard from many quarters when he won the Israeli election on May 17 were stifled, and as he headed for Washington and his first meeting with President Carter, the Beigin view of the world was the only one to be heard since the break with Russia, and because of its economic difficulties.

To read the newspapers and magazines, to watch television or to talk to officials was, for a while, a dreamlike experience. Mr. Beigin was "a moderate, reasonable, peace-loving friend of the United States. He virtually conjured the Arabs out of existence."

Serious and thoroughly-briefed journalists wrote that his position, as given by President Carter, was the seriousness of purpose and that Mr. Carter's design was to convince Mr. Beigin that the Americans would never exert any pressure on Israel.

There was all an illusion, of course. You can fool all the people some of the time, and the time is rather short. The facade was cracked by two things on Wednesday, the last day of Mr. Beigin's talks with the President. He gave a press conference at which he made no effort to conceal his admiration for the President, and President Carter said that it was very likely that the Geneva conference could resume.

The statement was such a public nonsense that it broke through the illusion and provoked the first cries that the emperor has no clothes. Those carried away on a wave of enthusiasm for Mr. Beigin are now beginning to notice that the opposition in Israel has been bitterly denouncing Mr. Beigin's "peace plan", and the leaders of that opposition were received with flourishes and trumpets in Washington just a few months ago.

The Americans are also beginning to recall that if it takes one to make war it takes two to make peace, and, despite all Mr. Beigin's predilections, there are still Arabs around his frontiers and they have not changed.

To all intents and purposes, Mr. Beigin has killed the Geneva conference. He has rejected Mr. Carter's peace plan which involved an almost complete Israeli withdrawal from occupied territories, a recognition of the Palestinians' right to a homeland in which they would exercise the right to self-determination, and formal peace between Arabs and Israel with exchanges of ambassadors and so on.

The President was prepared to contemplate any other supplementary arrangements to ensure Israel's military security. Mr. Beigin rejected two of the three parts of the Carter plan: he will keep the West

Bank and Gaza and he will never recognize the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

It may be that the Israeli Government believes that Egypt would be bound to accept Israel's terms (let President Sadat abandon the Palestinians and have permanent peace, ambassadors and all, and then Israel will return most of Sinai) because of Egypt's military weakness since the break with Russia, and because of its economic difficulties.

It may be that Mr. Beigin thinks that Syria's troubles in Lebanon will lead it to recognize Israel and ditch the Palestinians in exchange for most of the Golan Heights, and that King Hussein will agree to whatever terms he can get.

There are plenty of people in Israel to point out the twin fallacies of such arguments. The first is best described with the flat assertion that the Arabs do not behave like that. There is 30 years of history to prove it and the 1973 war is particularly instructive. The second is the economic fallacy. Egypt is indeed in trouble, and Syria is none too rich. But the oil states can afford to finance any level of military spending thought necessary.

The United States cannot match it, and the joke is that American oil imports will pay the Saudis the money to buy arms with which the Egyptians and Syrians will launch their next war on Israel.

President Carter's energy policy is based on the calculation that if oil prices trends in American consumption are allowed to continue, and prices go up steadily, the United States will be importing \$100,000m (about £58,000m) worth of oil a year in the mid-1980s. That will pay for many a Middle East war.

The chances are, however, that Mr. Beigin is perfectly well aware that the Arabs will never accept his terms.

It may well be that his policy is to force the Arabs to abandon the present attempts to reach a peace settlement by some renewed declaration of support for the PLO and of commitment to a complete Israeli withdrawal. He could then carry out his threat to annex the West Bank and Gaza, which he defines as part of the land of Israel.

Mr. Carter's statement that Geneva is still likely was doubtless very gratifying to the Prime Minister, Mr. Vence, the Secretary of State, is leaving for the Middle East on August 1 to see if there is any way to save this year's attempt at a Middle East settlement.

There will be no doubt whose fault it is if he fails, and despite all the assurances that America will put no pressure on Israel to change its policy, the mere pressure of events would then force Mr. Carter to reconsider his policy.

America to finance new Israel-produced tank

Washington, July 22—The United States has agreed to supply Israel with additional military equipment and ammunition and \$107m (about £60m) to finance production of a new Israeli tank, the State Department said today. The total value of the new aid is \$250m.

The new tank, to be manufactured in Israel, is the Charriot. Israeli officials said that Israel was unable to finance its production—Reuters.

At another meeting, he told a gathering of Jewish community leaders that he had declined an offer from the United States to guarantee Israel's security. "We will never ask one American soldier to shed a drop of blood for Israel," he said.

The vote was 27 in 111 against and 12 abstained. Countries which opposed resolution were Britain, United States, Canada, France, Italy, West Germany, Austria, Norway, Zealand and The Netherlands.

Miss Melissa Wells, a US States delegate, said the decision to give the PLO right to vote within the ECWA was a "step in the right direction" but that it was not enough to end the "Middle East efforts"—UPI.

According to the Tass report, a recommendation said to have been made by the United States Defense Department to American politicians is cited by the Soviet specialists, who quote the Pentagon as saying:

"The six million Jews in the United States are a very rich and influential group. For most of them Israel is of overriding importance. They support it with great enthusiasm and generosity. It would be a mistake for any party in the United States to withdraw support from Israel."—UPI.

Corruption case policeman is shot dead

Chicago, July 22—A former Chicago district police commander who served a prison sentence for corruption involving tavern owners and gave evidence against other policemen who faced similar charges was shot dead early today outside his home.

"It was an assassination," said a police spokesman. "Nothing was taken from him, no jewelry or money."

He said witnesses reported that the victim, Mr. Mark Thomsen, aged 49, was shot twice at close range, once in the face and once in the chest. A shotgun, the favourite weapon of crime syndicates, was used in the attack.—UPI.

Troops make issue in Belize talk

Guatemala City, July 22—Guatemala's main demand renewed negotiations with Belize with Britain here week will be the withdrawal of troops from Belize.

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Three more soldiers are killed in Rhodesia

From Our Correspondent
Salisbury, July 22

Three more white Rhodesian soldiers have been killed in guerrilla war. They were Corporal David Kruger, age 24, of Salisbury, Corporal R. Orchard, aged 21, of Salisbury, and Rifleman Thomas Shi, aged 20, of Bulawayo.

A communiqué tonight, Combined Operations said, most guerrillas had been killed by the security forces, and Africans running actively assisting a guerrilla gang were also killed.

A spokesman said that result of investigations in Rhodesia earlier this week African soldiers, women and men in a kraal in the north-eastern district in north-eastern Rhodesia it has now been listed that a total of 17 killed, 17 of whom were children.

The head of the kraal beaten to death before he was burnt and many others had been beaten. This massacre had been described as one of the worst in the five years of the war.

Washington, July 22—President Carter will participate in talks on southern Africa between Dr. David Owen, Foreign Secretary, who is in Washington from London, and Mr. Cyrus Vance, Secretary of State, the Department announced today.

Troops make issue in Belize talk

Guatemala City, July 22—Guatemala's main demand renewed negotiations with Belize with Britain here week will be the withdrawal of troops from Belize.

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Mr Jenkins 'encouraged' by talks in London

By Our Diplomatic Staff

Mr Roy Jenkins, President of the European Commission, said his talks in London with Mr Callaghan, Dr. David Owen, the Foreign Secretary, and other ministers had been encouraging.

Perhaps Britain would find it "even easier" to be a wholehearted member of the Community now that it no longer held the presidency, he added before returning to Brussels.

Mr Jenkins saw the Prime Minister in the morning and then had lunch with Dr. Owen. He was received by the Queen and later by Mrs Thatcher after which he had talks with Mr Benn, the Energy Secretary, and Mr Dell, the Trade Secretary.

He roundly condemned the budget ministers of the Nine for cutting the Commission's proposed expenditure at their recent meeting.

EEC budget cuts spare farm spending

From Michael Hornsby
Brussels, July 22

The cuts made in the draft EEC budget for 1978 by the Council of Ministers earlier this week have reduced the appropriations proposed by the European Commission from £8,130m to about £7,540m, it was disclosed in Brussels today.

The reduced figure represents an increase of 13 per cent over this year's budget. The ministerial axis has fallen on the non-agricultural sectors of the budget. As a result, the farm sector (mainly intended to support guaranteed prices) now accounts for more than 70 per cent of the total. Expenditure proposed in other sectors has been cut by about 35 per cent. The cuts have been described by Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the EEC Commissioner responsible for the budget, as "death by a thousand cuts." His hopes now rest with the European Parliament, which can increase budget spending within certain limits.

Proposed expenditure on the regional fund, designed to reduce the gap between the Community's rich and poor areas, was cut by about half. The social, industrial, energy and overseas development aid sectors also suffered badly. The resources committed to the regional fund have been relegated to a special "reserve" section. They will be released only after the Council of Ministers has agreed to renew the fund, which would otherwise run out at the end of the year.

Portisch takes lead in world chess

Geneva, July 22—Lajos Portisch of Hungary beat Boris Spassky of the Soviet Union in the eighth of their 16-game world chess semi-final. Portisch now leads by 4 points to 31.

Portisch took the lead in the eighth of their 16-game world chess semi-final. Portisch now leads by 4 points to 31.

Corruption case policeman is shot dead

Chicago, July 22—A former Chicago district police commander who served a prison sentence for corruption involving tavern owners and gave evidence against other policemen who faced similar charges was shot dead early today outside his home.

"It was an assassination," said a police spokesman. "Nothing was taken from him, no jewelry or money."

Defection threat to shaky coalition of Mr Demirel

Ankara, July 22—Only one day after Mr Demirel, the Turkish Prime Minister, resumed office, one member of his slender majority has apparently withdrawn his support and doubts have arisen over the position of a minister in his new Cabinet.

Mr Demirel yesterday became Prime Minister for the fourth time since 1965, after once again patching together the shaky right-wing coalition which has enabled him to govern for most of the past two-and-a-half years.

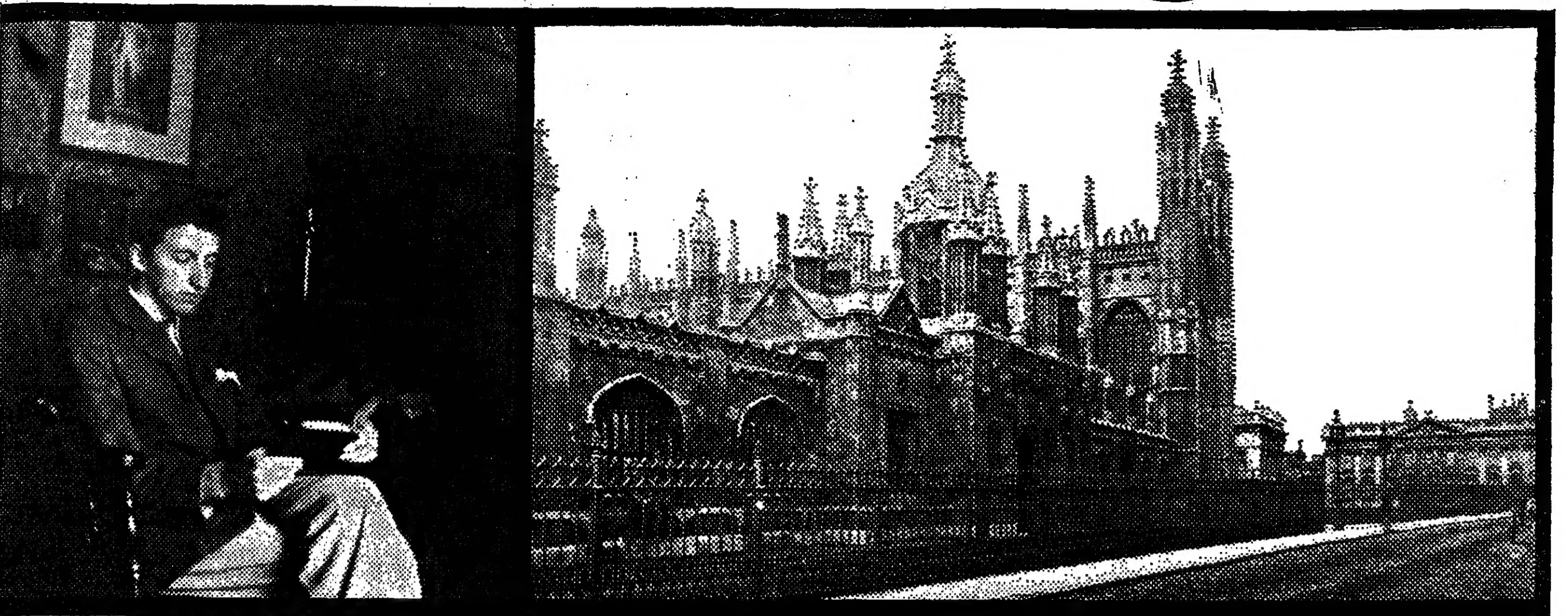
Bail set for man on spying charge

New York, July 22—At a hearing in Miami today, set for \$500,000 (£290,000), was set for Carl John Heiser, one of two men accused of spying for the Soviet Union.

The other defendant, a West German, a West German citizen, asked for a delay in his own bail hearing, so that he could secure his own counsel.

Forster at Kings

by P. N. Furbank



Crystal Palace

ntest final

cottish doubt

United States
10 players
for Walker

TV highlights

Racing

found work to hand in demolishing Forster's Christian beliefs—what he said were simply "foolish". Despite his churchy friends, Forster was fully ready to be parted from his faith, which he did not go very deep. At home he attended family prayers, and sometimes he went to church with his mother, who attended when it happened to suit her. But otherwise, his holy religion was a negligible quantity in his life, and his mother, so he noticed, seemed "offended" when the subject came up. As for Cambridge, scepticism, as he realized was the religion of the moment, or at least in the higher intellectual circles. It was the era of Frazar and G. E. Moore, who took the line, not of militant atheism, but of a calm ignorance of what was going on. The special revelation Forster only received their influence at second-hand, but now, with Meredith's help, it started him thinking for himself about reli-

...and of reading the main evidence, I did not realize that it was a question of all or none, and that the removal of the Trinity had jeopardized the stability of the Incarnation. I began to think about that. The idea of a god becoming man was so overwhelming to anyone possessed of a heart. Even at that age I was aware that this world needs help. But I never had the concept of a man and when I realized that the main aim of the Incarnation was to free us from sin I became very interested and ended by scrapping it for good.

His collapse was hastened by the fact that, when he thought about it, he disliked the personality of Christ: Christ was lacking in humour; and he surrounded himself with disciples; and he was too much of a moralist; and all of which seemed faults to a Forster. Within a short while, under Meredith's ministrations, he had lost his faith completely. It occurred with very little fuss; and when in despair he reported the fact to his mother, she took the news so calmly, it so happened that his father had similarly mislaid his faith for a period and then renewed it, and she assumed that this would be the case with Morgan. Meanwhile, it was agreed, he need no longer be present at family prayers.

© P. N. Furbank, 1977.

This extract is from the first volume of P. N. Furbank's E. M. Forster: *A Life. The Growth of the Novelist 1879-1914*, which C. M. Forster invited P. N. Furbank to write. E. M. Forster: *A Life, Volume One* will be published by Secker and Warburg on Monday at £5.50. It will be published that day by Michael Radcliffe.

The second extract from P. N. Furbank's biography of E. M. Forster, in which he describes the period of Howard's End, will be published in next week's Saturday Review.

Records of the month

Vein of silver

L'Oracolo Sutherland
Van Allan. National
Harmonic/Bonynghe. Decca
2. 57.50.

Don Giovanni.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Le Nozze di Figaro.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Der Rosenkavalier.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Die Fledermaus.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Die Entführung aus dem Serail.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Die Zauberflöte.
Karl Böhm. Philips.
SLS 5033, £7.95.

Die Hochzeit des Figaro.
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Giovanni from the ailing Klemperer. Despite his success, EMI declined to give him the recording and instead offered it to Giulini. The set has just been reissued in admirably refurbished sound and Giulini and the Philharmonia impress by the seriousness with which they approach the task.

Leoni never achieved Puccini's stature; by contrast his writing is relaxed and Bonynghe and the National Philharmonic make no attempt to hurry a score which is almost too sweet for its grisly subject. The result may be a little too charming, but no matter. It is a delight to hear Sutherland in top form and

Ryland Davies lusciously mellifluous as San-Lui, the man who meets a nasty end on the cellar steps.

Tito Gobbi enjoys himself as Cim-Pen, boundlessly villainous in his optimism and child-snatching. This was the role composed for Antonio Scotti. On record though the sage, Ulin Sci, comes over more strongly, particularly in the final scene where he parades Cim-Pen with the victim's own pigtail and then casts the corpse while the law passes by. Richard Van Allan in the part gives one of his best performances to date on record.

Perhaps this enterprising and vastly enjoyable Decca set will encourage someone to take a change with the opera on stage. San Francisco itself seems the obvious house to choose if anyone will follow Covent Garden's example and couple it with Gluck's *Orfeo*, a most bizarre piece of programme.

Fifteen years ago the Festival Hall used to have occasional concert performances of operas towards the end of recording seasons. It was at one of these that Colin Davis made his name overnight after taking over Don

disrespect to the Romanian soprano, the most winning of contemporary Sussanahs, that I declare Miss Blegen the star of the EMI set. She has the resource and energy to match the aggression of her figure, Gertrude Eyring. The other singers, including, alas, Heather Harper and Fischer-Dieskau, miss the measure of the work. It is all too unexciting, particularly in the recitatives, and Barenboim's conducting, despite his care for balance and moderation, lacks the smell of the pre-emptive. The recommendation remains Kleiber (Erich) on Decca cheap label.

With such a more enthusiastic about Philip's new *Rosenkavalier*, which began in Houston in John Cox's production in January, 1975. The style and meticulousness of Cox's staging has been lost on record with the exception of Frederica

von Stade's Octavian, which is still full of ardour and wit and deliciously sung. I remain faithful, too, to Evelyn Lear's sad and knowing Marcellina. But the Philips's Sophie (not in Houston's cast) is simply not in the international class and the Ochs, Jules Bastin, is out-pointed by most of his rivals. De Waart brings energy to the score, but the older hands (Solti, Karajan and Bernstein, not necessarily in that order) have the more valuable quality of maturity for this opera. It is not in any way an indifferent recording, indeed nearly all the minor parts are well played, but it simply has too much high calibre opposition to face. Philips would have done well to have chosen another Strauss opera. *Arabella* with its Kanawa perhaps?

John Higgins

Joan Sutherland

Joan Sutherland

Joan Sutherland

Joan Sutherland

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Old loves

soprano, Gundula Janowitz, is a general favourite but in "The Swimmer", a less oblique manner, perhaps. The CBS record is most perceptively accompanied under Daniel Barenboim who includes a characteristic, likeable account of Elgar's *Alceste* symphonic overture, a marvellous piece.

For another conductor and orchestra Miss Milton gives a magnificent account of Berlioz's student cantata *The Death of Cleopatra*, a missing link between Gluck and Wagner, excellently projected by Boulez. He is less certain, in emphasis and texture, with the *Nuits d'été* songs, but sensibly shares them between Miss Milton and Stuart Burrows, for the vocal diversity Berlioz wanted. The last two songs go best, the others often heavy, with unidiomatic sung French; the recorded balance is attractively spacious and fresh.

Pierre Bernac's book is prescribed reading for foreign interpreters of French song. He would disapprove of the vowels in that *Nuits d'été* just as he disapproves of Massenet's songs, a good selection of which are championed by Juliette Tourangeau and Richard Bonynghe. We may admit that Massenet was not Fauré's equal in drawing room song, but Miss Tourangeau, with her extended vocal range, rich palate of expression, colour and musical sympathy, can counter Bernac's strict advice (not his censure of the vocal "R") with positive and alluring artistry, and in songs mostly unfamiliar (three with Reginald Kilbey as obligato cellist and none to the "Elegie") Mr Bonynghe over-rides the piano parts but, like his singer, judges the songs appealingly.

William Mann

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Soldier and iceman

Locke: Music to the Tempest. Music for His Majesty's Academy of Ancient Music/Hogwood. L'Oiseau-Lyre Florilegium DLSO 507, £3.50.

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George Hutchinson

Sir Harold and the errors of MI5: why didn't he know what was going on?

Sir Harold Wilson tells a strange story. He discloses that the counter-intelligence service generally known as MI5 has been guilty of staggering incompetence by failing to distinguish between Dr David Owen and Mr Will Owen, a former Labour Minister, and the wife of a communist doctor.

Sir Harold goes on to suggest that by the summer of 1975 he himself and members of his entourage were the subjects of a whispering campaign alleging communist leanings. He implicates officers of MI5: "They would naturally be brought up to believe that socialist leaders were another form of communism. They are blinkered, the sort of people who would be spreading the story. Later, he is more explicit: "They were saying that I was tied up with the communists and that MI5 knew."

Let us, for the moment, accept Sir Harold's account. Leaving aside its more lurid or melodramatic or speculative or facetious or "gossipy" aspects, his attack poses a number of questions. I am now going to ask them.

Our subject, after all, is a former Prime Minister of exceptionally long service and experience. He has been a Privy Counsellor for 30 years. Since his retirement he has become a Knight of the Garter. He well

understands the interests of the state.

Why then has he chosen to dole out, for publication, the most delicate of all our instruments of state? Why is he publicly belittling and disparaging one of the secret intelligence services? Why should he act in such a way as to bring it into public dispute? What good purpose can he expect to achieve?

When he was Prime Minister it was Harold Wilson's duty to put the service to rights if he believed it to be wrong. Yet we now find him wringing his hands and saying: "I am not certain that for the last eight months when I was Prime Minister I knew what was happening fully in security."

Why not? Why did he not know? Can you imagine such an admission from his immediate predecessor, Mr Heath? Of course not. Like any other self-respecting Prime Minister, Mr Heath would have made it his business to know if anything was wrong; he would not have allowed himself to remain in ignorance.

Harold Wilson apparently did. Now he compounds his self-exposed failure, for the effect of what he has made public is to damage the reputation of an honourable service which by definition cannot openly answer back.

What a good television broadcast the Liberals made on Wednesday night. To my mind, it was technically the best from any party for a long time. The absence of a "vox pop" and some



of the other intrusive, distracting devices so dear to their political rivals was very welcome.

The Liberals were content to rely on two able exponents of party policy, Mr Jeremy Thorpe and Mr Stephen Ross—and gained accordingly. If party political broadcasts are to remain, one could wish to see more of them presented with similar dignity and the avoidance of gimmickry.

Should civil servants be allowed to become parliamentary candidates without having to relinquish their appointments until such time as they are elected? The existing prohibition is brought to mind by Mr Jack Straw's impending departure from Whitehall following his adoption as Labour candidate for Blackburn.

Mr Straw, whose student

fame of yesteryear you may remember, is special (meaning political) adviser to Mr Peter Shore in the Department of the Environment. By definition this is a temporary arrangement. He is on the Civil Service payroll, however, like most if not all of the two dozen "special advisers" attached to various ministers. Thus he is classed as a civil servant and finds himself subjected to a disability affecting them all.

Once a civil servant is adopted as a prospective parliamentary candidate he has to resign under the provisions of a Statute of the Crown Order. Should this order be kept in force? Or ought it to be repealed? Mr Callaghan has asked himself the same questions—hence the decision, shortly after he became Prime Minister, to set up a committee

to look into the present practice and advise. The committee has not yet reported.

To my mind, special advisers (or whatever they may be called) should be clearly distinguished from regular civil servants. Special advisers are political persons. So far from pretending to be anything else, they emphasize the political role to which they have been appointed. Their masters do not cease to be party politicians on becoming ministers. Why then should they not remain in service, along with their respective ministers, until an election? Surely they could be trusted to observe discretion.

Couldn't a somewhat similar freedom be extended to professional civil servants? The present disability must have the effect of depriving Parliament of some good potential mem-

bers. Should they not be relieved of it, those of them who would like to embark on a political career?

In evidence to the committee, Mr Brendan Sewill has suggested a solution. Mr Sewill, previously director of the Conservative Research Department and now in the City, was special assistant to Anthony Barber while the latter was Chancellor of the Exchequer. Although a political person he was on the public payroll (unlike five of the 11 "special advisers" attached to the Heath government, who were paid by the Conservative Party treasury).

Mr Sewill has had this to say: "It is in the national interest—and in the interests of the Civil Service itself—that rational and intelligent people should not be deterred from putting themselves forward as parliamentary candidates. I would, therefore, suggest that the rules should be relaxed so that where a senior civil servant intimates that he wishes to enter Parliament he should be transferred to some post of a non-politically sensitive nature for a year or so while he is seeking a seat; if he is successful in finding a seat he should be allowed to remain in the Civil Service, still on non-sensitive work, until the next general election. If he is unsuccessful in finding a seat, or unsuccessful in winning an election, he should be permitted to return to normal Civil Service work and expurgate his political sins."

This seems a very reasonable proposal.

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Dr Roland leaves his island of culture in Cork Street

Some leading art dealers admit that they are more interested in money than pictures. "A good salesman is someone who can sell a picture he doesn't like," a respected specialist in Impressionists used to say. A well-known purveyor of contemporary art, when urged by an assistant to buy a delectable Boudin for his own collection, answered the young man: "Always remember, I collect money, not pictures."

But some dealers have a real passion for the works in which they deal, and sell them as objects to treasure. One such was Harry Fischer, of Fischer Fine Art, who died recently. Now, amid general regret, another two, Dr Henry Roland and Mr Gustav Debbano, are retiring.

Since 1945, their gallery at 19 Cork Street, London, W1, has been a small oasis of European culture where the visitor could usually find small, rather intimate nineteenth and twentieth-century drawings and paintings which ravished the eye and uplifted the spirit. Some 50 such items which have passed through their hands, by artists like Degas, Maillol, Rodin, Sickert, Moore, Hayden and Josef Herman have been on show this month in a farewell retrospective of their 30 years of dealing.

Dr Roland came to London from Munich in 1929. He began in a very small way, keeping pictures bought at Christie's under the bed, and teaching French and German to make ends meet. Mr Debbano, who came from Hamburg, of a once Venetian family, was studying drawings at the British Museum when they joined forces for the following year.

Opening an office in Piccadilly, they dealt exclusively in old masters, selling mainly to Continental and American museums. After the war, they were joined by Miss Lilian Browne, a specialist in Sickert and Degas, and opened in 1945 as Roland, Browne and Debbano in Cork Street with an exhibition of British drawings.

Since then, Dr Roland says, it has not been a matter of ups and downs, but a constant up. They discovered many fine things miscatalogued at the

salerooms, built up a fine British clients, reminded a like Rodin and Klee, and carefully backed such connoisseurs as the Polish art collector, Josef Herman, Philip St. and Norman Adams.

The gallery's preference always been, as Dr Roland says, for "choice works people not know to ever reach the ordinary world of the top floor."

"I loved people to work out of income and love it. Today, they use capital, and the itself, brings the necessary considering every purchase an investment. He thought 'absolutely immoral'."

Nowadays people are afraid I don't know what I'm doing, perhaps. I have been lent to 57 countries. Again, many are small, painted to be loved. "Nowadays people are afraid I don't know what I'm doing, perhaps. I have been lent to 57 countries. Again, many are small, painted to be loved."

When the Roland collection was shown at the Camden Centre last year, he wrote forthwith: "It is a life, a life which deepens my awareness of life and imbues the mind with new added meaning. They just to see. This then is the criterion which I apply work of art when I choose for myself: does it add my own perception in an exciting way? Not style, name, or value, but must be a new experience."

He retired aged 89 to a completely fulfilled life, he believes, in creating a harmony, and he has this in his home, his fan his son Anthony, is a known maker and collector of films, whose work has won 29 national prizes and with friends. Miss Browne is carrying on at the gallery, a new partner of competence, Mr William Darby, the gallery's friends will them well.

Roger Berth

After 30 years in the air, Mr Stamp knows how to take care of you

Flight BA 521, bound for Washington and Detroit, was five and a half hours out of Heathrow, and William Stamp, the cabin service officer, could relax a little.

His cabin staff had been on the go since takeoff, serving drinks, lunch and tea to about 400 passengers, and he was chatting up the passengers.

He was a big man, who looked as if he would be at home behind the bar of a country pub. He was an air gunner during the war, and had joined BOAC as a steward in 1948.

His first aircraft was a Dakota, and he had graduated to Yorks, Argonauts, Hermes, Britannias, VC10s, 707s, 747s and Concorde. He preferred the jumbo to other space-age planes because of its spacious-

ness. Even with a full load aboard he could fulfil the promise of the company's advertising: British Airways takes more care of you.

His first Dakota took two days to fly to Tehran, overnighting at Nicosia in Cyprus. The kitchen equipment was primitive. Breakfast was put aboard in two large vacuum flasks, scrambled eggs in one and bacon in the other.

One morning he used a cold spoon to serve the bacon, and the vacuum flask exploded. He put his head through the galley door, and said: "Bacon's off."

It was good for laugh, he added reminiscently.

Passengers were very good on the whole, only a few were bothersome. He added good naturedly that good service and a cheerful atmosphere gener-

ally made the awkward ones feel better.

That was how he saw his job, providing a good service and helping to create a relaxed and cheerful atmosphere. The passengers came aboard as strangers. For some it might be their first flight, and they could be apprehensive. He tried to ensure that they would enjoy themselves, and that they would fly with British Airways again.

Good routine was the secret of good service, especially when you had to take care of three or four hundred passengers. He thought that he had mastered it well after nearly 30 years of flying.

Flying had never bothered him, even in bad weather. Not after his time as a tail gunner. But he admitted that he did not sleep well the night before he first served aboard Concorde.

It was difficult to explain why after all those decades of flying. He knew that he would enjoy serving the fine food and wines, but he was not comfortable until they reached Mach 2.

He was serving lunch at the time, and it was like a hand giving a gentle push from behind. There was hardly a ripple in the wine glass. I said that I was still sentimental about the Stratocruiser in which I made my first Atlantic crossing nearly 30 years ago. I remembered the downstairs lounge and the bunk in which I slept dreamlessly after a good dinner.

Mr Stamp agreed that it was easier on the old one-class aircraft which carried only about 40 passengers. He was sentimental about the Argonaut, the first aircraft with a proper kitchen, but he thought that

the present mix of aircraft and services was about right.

Concorde was wonderful for people in a hurry. There was less jet lag, and a businessman could start work immediately after a transatlantic flight. Many people were still sentimental about the VC 10, which would be flying the eastern routes for many more years.

He still thought that the 747 was the best all-round plane. The first-class passengers could enjoy the top-floor lounge, and the economy section with its wide variety of fares had brought long-distance flying within the range of people who earlier could not afford to fly to America or Australia.

Then there was the new executive cabin reserved for passengers who paid the full economy fare. They were served

first, and businessmen could work without the distraction of the cinema show.

The time came for him to explain the mysteries of American immigration cards, which he did lucidly and with a touch of humour. There was the usual fast rush to the lavatories, and the plane finally landed at Dulles.

Mr Stamp was on hand to thank everybody for flying British Airways and to offer help to anybody who wanted it. Later, while waiting for the luggage to arrive, an American oilman from Tulsa, Oklahoma, reckoned that it had been a very pleasant flight. I ought to have thanked the cabin staff, he added gratefully. Mr Stamp would have liked that.

Louis Heren

The key to success for unknown composers?

The British Music Information Centre declares that it will accept scores and tapes from "any composer of reasonable ability."

Certainly in these days of post-Schubert, and establishment musical experimentation, the adjective begs the question and invites some speculation as to the criteria involved. I am assured, however, that while the scrutiny panel checks legibility and literacy to protect the integrity of the centre's library, it makes no artistic judgments.

But this loose qualification does at least allow the centre to offer a flicker of encouragement to burgeoning composers in their perpetual struggle for acceptance and recognition.

Of all the arts, composition has long been the most difficult to demonstrate and promote. A writer can submit his manuscript with a competent understanding of publishers' needs. An artist can exhibit, with luck, in a gallery or at least—like wildlife painter David Shepherd in his younger days—on some park railings or the Thames Embankment.

And while a new book can be read and a new painting seen, a new musical work must, of its very nature, be heard, the manuscript version being less than adequate in conveying—even to the most accomplished score reader—satisfactory idea of how with all the nuances of interpretation, it will sound.

It is ten years since Lord Goodman, as chairman of the Arts Council, opened the British Music Information Centre, at 10, Stratford Place, London, W1, an elegant building that also houses The Composers' Guild of Great Britain. And over that period, composers—established and unknown, amateur and professional—have found, to their advantage, that they can lodge taped versions of their works in the centre's library where any music user, a school teacher, a radio or television producer, a concert promoter, a conductor or a seeker of film background music, can hear as much new material as he likes and be guided by the administrator, Mr John Michael East, formerly an extramural lecturer on music of London University.

There are some obvious snags. While any composer might not have too much of a problem in recruiting a few enthusiastic friends to record a work for small ensemble, he will admittedly find some difficulty in getting something of symphonic proportions on to tape.

With its library of 10,000

scores, the centre has the world's largest collection of modern British music consisting of most works published in the last 25 years and a vast range of unpublished material.

Any musician or music lover is welcome to call, write (provided a stamped, addressed envelope is enclosed) or telephone the centre at 01-499 8567 for information, and listening facilities are provided by an impressive bank of gramophone turntables and tape playback units.

The centre originated from an idea of Guy Warrack's and was developed by the trustees who, besides Mr Warrack, are Ursula Vaughan Williams, the composer's widow, Sir Charles Groves and Sir Lennox Berkeley.

One of the reasons for the size of its library is that, soon after it opened, a decision was taken to catalogue the mammoth task of cataloguing British music which Ralph Vaughan Williams had so painstakingly begun.

In the early days, the late Alan Rawsthorne was also active in helping to form the centre which has since been visited by some international figures like Benjamin Britten and Shostakovich and British musical luminaries like Sir William Walton, Edmund Rubbra, Peter Racine Fricker, Elizabeth Maconchy, Humphrey Searle, Malcolm Williamson and his predecessor as Master of the Queen's Music, the late Sir Arthur Bliss.

The cost of financing and maintaining the centre is met by the Arts Council, the Performing Right Society and the Vaughan Williams Trust, the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and the Composers' Guild.

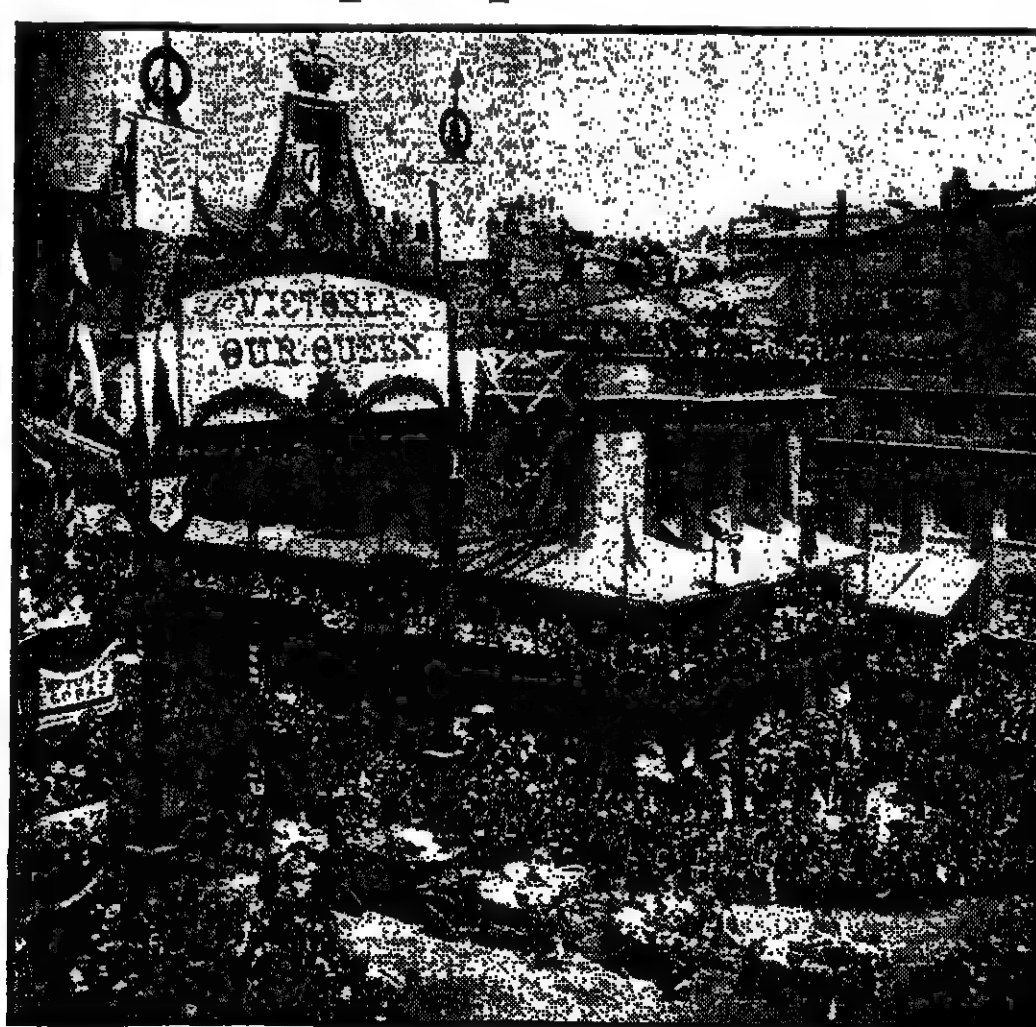
There are moments when the centre really comes into its own; when, for example, the enormous BBC music library is stuck for some rare or obscure work and turns to it for help.

Recently a record company wanted to issue a lost and forgotten work by Francis Chagrin and managed to find a miniature score at the centre where the work was photographed and enlarged and the individual parts copied.

Ours is not the only country with a music centre. The recent revival of the music of Charles Ives has been attributed to the zeal of the one in New York and others exist in many European and Commonwealth countries. Scotland and Wales now have their own which serve the interests of regional composers.

Sam Heppner

Poor Queen Kapiolani, and the snubs and insults she had to put up with at Victoria's jubilee



Queen Victoria's jubilee: not all harmony for foreign princes.

While exercising his privilege of driving through Horse Guards in the summer of 1887, Prince Komatsu of Japan was amazed and irritated to find that when his coachman presented the ivory pass of entry to the guards they suggested. As a powerful relation of the Emperor who had been assigned to bring his sovereign's congratulations to Queen Victoria on the occasion of her golden jubilee, he found such behaviour insulting and so complained to the Foreign Office.

When inquiries were made, it was discovered that the irreverent guards, confronted with a pass made out in the name of "The Mikado" could not help thinking of Gilbert and Sullivan's smash 1885 hit and so naturally burst into laughter each time Komatsu passed by. Thus informed, the Foreign Office made out a new pass for the prince in the name of the Emperor. There is no record, however, either that anyone bothered to apologise to the offended diplomat or attempted to dress down the rude guards.

This petty indignity was characteristic of the way in which all the so-called "oriental" princes were dealt with at the time of the golden jubilee, especially by members of the European royal houses and Court officials, in defiance of the rules of courtesy and also the rules of common sense which generally suggested another course.

The latter consideration should have been particularly apparent in the case of the Persian representative, for in the realm of the Shah there was a long-standing British interest and continuing suspicion about the intentions of Russia. Moreover in 1887 there were some delicate railway negotiations taking place in which the government had a particular interest.

Alerted by Sir Arthur Nicolson, British envoy in Tehran, to these considerations, Robert, third Marquess of Salisbury, Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary, was particularly keen that the Shah's emissary, a cousin known as the Hessian es Sultaneh, be treated with "hospitality and distinction", so that no one at the Persian Court could make an adverse comparison with what had been done at the recent coronation of the Tsar of Russia, when the Shah's representative was the personal guest of the new monarch.

Unfortunately, however, Queen Victoria, nervous about the growing dimensions of the jubilee, "trembling" about the strain its preparations were already causing her and deter-

mined to bear no expense in the matter, early decided that such representatives from the Orient could not be her guests and would have to be attended to by the Foreign Office.

Most reluctantly, therefore, and after several attempts to persuade the Queen to change her mind, Salisbury decided to make the oriental representatives guests of the state, their expenses to be met by his department rather than by the Queen. In the event, princes from Hawaii, Siam and Japan (all of whom announced that they planned to attend, as was customary at the time) joined the Hessian es Sultaneh as guests of the state, £88 a week for each for up to a month being allotted for their expenses.

The decision to undertake the entertaining of these princes by the Foreign Office rather than by the Queen (which in practice meant by the Lord Chamberlain's Department) created difficul-

ties which were never to be resolved, there then being two distinct groups of princely guests who remained untingered.

Partly they remained separate because there was no means of satisfactory arranging their precedence. Who did in fact rank higher, a cousin of the Shah of Persia or a cousin of Queen Victoria? The prince concerned, of course, each thought they knew the answer, but neither the Foreign Office nor the Lord Chamberlain's Department felt confident about advising the Queen.

After wrestling with the difficulty for months, the decision was therefore taken simply to arrange each group within itself and not attempt any merging, which is why on Jubilee Day there was no single carriage procession to Westminster Abbey but instead several smaller ones. The princely groups also remained separate, however,

because the European royalties were contemptuous of their oriental colleagues and he it be known that they did not wish to mix with them as equals. This haughty and prejudiced attitude produced unending difficulties.

One of the personnel assigned to the Persian prince, for instance, told J. H. Bergne, head of the Treasury Department of the Foreign Office, that he had been instructed to make sure that the Hessian es Sultaneh arrived slightly later at Buckingham Palace than the other royalties so that he would not be able to take a place in the march to dinner because "The European Princes [have] objected to go in procession with the Orientals."

Such treatment prompted the prince to threaten to leave the jubilee early, which naturally alarmed Lord Salisbury, who was afraid of the effect such a premature departure would have on the Tether-

an railway talks, and so he personally tried to make amends. Privately, however, he excoriated the Court officials for their stupid behaviour, telling Lady Mountbatten, "The [Lord] Chamberlain's office declined to recognise the Persian, Siamese and Japanese Princes as anything else but blacks and treated them accordingly."

The most glaring example of such foolish treatment, however, was that accorded to Queen Kapiolani of Hawaii, consort of the ruling sovereign. Again there were very cogent political reasons why she should have been better received.

These principally concerned the status of the key Pacific port of Pearl Harbour, which was in 1887 the focus of much diplomatic activity. This is because at that time the United States was demanding as the price of renewal of the Hawaiian-American reciprocity treaty, which permitted Hawaiian goods to enter the United States duty free, the cession of the harbour. Such an action, though, would have severely threatened Hawaiian independence and thus have run counter to long-standing British interest. The jubilee permitted King Kalakaua to despatch a diplomatic mission to London designed to deal with the question without, however, having its purpose publicly known.

Lord Salisbury, of course, was well aware of the importance of Kapiolani's ostensibly congratulatory visit, but he could not protect the Queen from insult and snubs. Many Londoners, for instance, remembered that not long before there had been rumours that her kingdom was for sale, and that the king's sisters had thrown herself into a volcano to appease an angry fire god.

Thus Kapiolani, plump and very dark indeed, was looked upon with good deal of derision. Field Marshal Grenfell said she provided the humour for the occasion: "And one newspaper commented that she had given 'regal position to Darktown'."

Despite the fact that Queen Victoria kissed her as she would any other queen, Kapiolani went without the lord-in-waiting, other sovereigns were assigned, being forced to share with the oriental princes the services of a mere assistant clerk from the Treasury Office.

Then again, no guards of honour were posted at her hotel, the Alexandra, which Prince Komatsu forced to share, staying there, demanded that as his right.

Finally, a mere captain's

escort was provided for Majesty of Hawaii on J. Day; at this, however, a lady bridled, letting it known that unless she got the escort due, her rank would not participate at this particular she was not full.

Having had such a difficult time of it in 1887, it might be assumed that the Foreign Office and Lord Chamberlain's Department would have tried to work out some solution to the problem to meet its needs. In fact once the jubilee had passed, the difficulties of precedence put aside so that at the diamond jubilee in 1902 nothing had been done to improve matters.

On this occasion, however, similar difficulties did arise, though this was because officials were ill-prepared. Rather, Queen Victoria had lightened their by banishing the attendant reigning sovereigns, to chagrin of most of the Cal who particularly wanted to present.

Secondly, and fortunately, the Japanese and other princes present either Hawaiian monarchy, for instance, was by now defunct the islands as a whole an American property. The Siamese representative, on occasion not of royal rank while the Siamese prince young boy who was sent the understanding that would not have to attend evening parties.

Of the non-European prince who came in 1897 the significance was a representative of the Emperor of Japan, it was most important for sons of state that he be received. Thus Lord Salisbury in office, hastened to assure the Emperor that the "invidious distinction" which marked the occasion for his previous representative would be permitted this time. Therefore the Japanese prince was made a guest of Queen and given all the appropriate marks of honour and respect. Perhaps, too, as Japanese friendship was at moment coming to be particularly valued by guards at Horse Guards, have been warned not to get when the Mikado's representative sped by.

Dr Jeffrey L. Le

The author, an administrator at Boston College, Mass., sets, did his doctoral dissertation at Harvard on Queen Victoria's golden and diamond jubiles.

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EGYPT AND LIBYA AT ODDS

Colonel Gaddafi can be blamed for creating this unparliamentary diversion; and he can also be blamed, for the umpteenth time, for fomenting violent unrest in Egypt—an accusation that ordinary Egyptians will perhaps believe that much more easily when there is actual shooting on the border.

As so often in the Middle East, the conspiracy theory is very tempting, but still not altogether credible. Gambler though he is, Mr. Sadat could hardly have deliberately inflicted on his own prestige and authority such a devastating blow as the January riots involved. Nor, surely, would he deliberately put at risk the 250,000 Egyptian residents in Libya—earnings of much-needed hard currency, for whom Egypt would be hard put to find employment at home—by gratuitously starting a war.

In fact the January riots were most probably spontaneous, though encouraged by both leftist and Muslim agitators. Can Thursday's fighting have been spontaneous too? There may well have been an element of unintended escalation, resulting from over-reaction, or over-zealous initiatives, by local commanders on either side. But that Egypt intended at least to increase the tension on the frontier does seem plausible. Mr. Sadat, after all, has made no secret of his belief that the political violence with which

Egypt is plagued is fomented by Colonel Gaddafi. How far it is directly planned and organized by him one may doubt, but his contempt and antipathy towards the Egyptian leader and his policies are well advertised. Colonel Gaddafi's weakness for financing foreign "liberation movements" is also well known, and it is likely enough that any Egyptian oppositionist asking for Libyan support will not go away empty-handed, especially if he can prove he is a devout Muslim.

Mr. Sadat is understandably irritated by this. He has also expressed his concern about Libya's subversive efforts in two neighbouring states, Chad and Sudan, and his fears lest Egypt should find herself entirely encircled by enemies. At the same time he knows that in an open war Egypt would be many times a match for Libya, even allowing for the latter's sophisticated Soviet weapons; and he believes (with some evidence, though perhaps not conclusive) that Colonel Gaddafi's regime is weaker and more unpopular, as well as more dictatorial, than his own. He may have been tempted to shake the tree, hoping the apple would fall and wishing in any case to remind it of its vulnerability.

When all is said and done the quarrel is a stupid one, not worth the shedding of human blood. Both sides would be well advised to drop it.

DOCTORS CANNOT BE AN EXCEPTION

probably, is it possible to reverse the general tendency, which has continued most of this century, for disparities in earnings to become less. The fact that doctors' earnings have fallen far behind those in wealthier countries is only relevant as far as it affects emigration by highly qualified doctors in a few specialties—a disturbing trend but not yet a crucial one. But as the Government-appointed body that reviews doctors' pay declared this year with unprecedented emphasis, the existing distortions are a threat to the whole National Health Service that must be dealt with soon.

Sanctions and threats of sanctions over issues great and small have been so frequent in recent years that yesterday's almost unanimous approval for possible industrial action may not have the public impact it might have done. The very unanimity creates a problem. Juniors were able to take action knowing that consultants and GPs would cover for them; at another time the consultants were able to do the same thing. Far from being inclined to cry "scab" they felt able to act because they knew their colleagues were still at work. Even so these actions inevitably caused some hardship. But yesterday's debate was short through with awareness that doctors are no more ready than their patients altogether, for the sake of a wage claim.

All credit to them. But what if the Government will listen to nothing less? The first step in a claim would be to approach the

review body for an interim award—something that some passages in its report almost openly invite. The Prime Minister is adamant at this stage that if such an award were made, breaching the 12 months' rule, the Government would reject it. The review body would then not doubt resign, as its predecessors did in 1970, honourably, but to no immediate effect. The doctors would take more or less symbolic strike action, which would certainly also be ineffective.

This prospect of fruitless confrontation is not an inevitable one. The profession should realize that just a week before phase two ends the Government cannot possibly cast away the only effective shred of restraint that the TUC continues to accept.

In a few months' time either the battle will have been lost or inflation will have passed its peak, as prophesied, and the possibility of acknowledging special cases on merit will return. The policy of yielding to brute force but not to acknowledged merit is not heroic, but it is the only one that offers real hope at this point of avoiding a wage explosion. The health service as we know it, supported in principle by most doctors, could not long survive if the inflation rate rose to, say, 25 per cent. Of course such a policy creates its own distortions, penalizing some other workers in the public sector as well as doctors. Making a start and repairing those distortions must be an early priority, as soon as the crisis is past. But for the time being the general rule must apply to all.

BIG MANDATE FOR A HARD JOB

shocked urban voters who could see the evidence. The nepotism was also blatant—from the private sector to the Prime Minister's sector was the jibe about businesses taken over. Sons, daughters and nephews were seen to benefit.

A more cynical view of Sri Lanka's five changes of government since independence would suggest that each election recorded a vote against failure coupled with a vain hope in the opposition. In fact some credit is due to Mrs. R. Jayewardene for her success. Since taking over the party from the Senanayake dynasty he has given it a new image. It no longer stands out as the party of Sri Lanka's "two hundred families"—the cynic would add that most of the opposition parties are led by breakaways from this dominant social stratum. At least in this election strange faces coming from Colombo to fight constituencies where they were unknown were not replaced by well-known local faces.

The politics of the UNP have

also been refurbished. Echoing Edward VII, Mr. Jayewardene agrees that nowadays his party is a democratic socialist one. Perhaps the voters are weary of such labels—witness the virtual burial of the extreme left parties in this election. Nor need the UNP be disturbed by Mrs. Bandaranaike's charge of restoring capitalism. If it gives more scope to the small entrepreneur it need not doubt its mandate.

But that is not an end of the results. The Tamil vote for a single Tamil party shows this minority to be even more self-conscious and separatist than ever; and there will be no one this time to mitigate their resentment with the offer of places in a coalition. More distressing still are the unemployed young. Seventy per cent of the island's thirteen million population is between eighteen and thirty-five. One million of them have no job. The wild and pointless revolutionary explosion of 1971 should be a reminder to the new government of what its priority should be.

Harriet Shaw Weaver, to an American University. No doubt this report has caused concern to others, but I have a particular right to express regret at this action, since it was I who suggested the National Book League to Mrs. Weaver as a suitable custodian of these books. I well remember her aims: she wanted to keep the books together, to keep them in this country, and to make them available to the general reading public (and for this reason she specifically rejected any idea of giving them to a college or university library).

I assume that the National Book League has satisfied itself of its legal right to dispose of this unique collection; it is also satisfied of its moral right? For my own part I can only record my regret that it was I who advised Mrs. Weaver to entrust this collection to what has proved to be an unworthy recipient. Yours faithfully, J. B. BAMBOURGH, Immaculate College, Oxford, July 18.

James Joyce collection

From the Principal of Linacre College, Oxford, July 13.

Mr. I have just learned from reports in the press that the National Book League has sold the collection of books by and about James Joyce, which was presented to it by Miss

review body for an interim award—something that some passages in its report almost openly invite. The Prime Minister is adamant at this stage that if such an award were made, breaching the 12 months' rule, the Government would reject it. The review body would then not doubt resign, as its predecessors did in 1970, honourably, but to no immediate effect. The doctors would take more or less symbolic strike action, which would certainly also be ineffective.

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County changes

From Mr. Roy Ward

Sir, Oh dear, oh dear, when will people get through their heads that there was a fundamental reorganization of local government in England and Wales in 1974, when some counties had their boundaries changed, others ceased to exist completely, and some new ones were created? I refer to Ronald Kay's article (July 15), in which he refers to Grimsby, Lincolnshire, and "Hull, Yorkshire". But Lincolnshire is one of the counties whose boundaries changed in 1974, and Yorkshire ceased to exist altogether at the same time. Both Grimsby and Hull are now in one of the new counties, Humberside. One expects better than this of The Times.

Punishment for attacks on women

From Mr. Alistair Sampson

Sir, On February 4 of this year Jamie Shepherd, a member of our family, left our house in St. John's Wood to see her boy friend. She never arrived.

On April 18 her body was discovered on waste land near St. Albans. She was dead. There was evidence of sexual assault. She was 24 years of age.

As I myself practised at the Bar for 15 years, and during that time was positively Longford-like in my liberal approach to the whole question of crime and punishment, I have followed your editorial comment with considerable interest and interest in the case of Guardsman Holdsworth with some care.

There has now been enough written and said about the matter to reach certain conclusions, and it is desirable that the whole question being of considerable public importance, that they should be set out. May I attempt to do so?

1. Press and public who have not been present throughout a trial should hesitate to pass judgment upon the man who has had the difficult task, calling for so much heart-searching and experience, of sentencing an offender. The Judge of first instance has not only absorbed every last detail of the matter in hand, but has had the chance of observing the accused's demeanour.

2. The matters in (1) above apply equally to the case of an appeal. They should not lightly vary sentences when they have only written transcripts before them.

3. Judges should never lose sight of the fact that no appeal to a superior court lies against sentences which are on the side of leniency.

4. Those who direct their minds towards rehabilitation should not exclude from their consideration the damage that may have been done to a victim. In many rape cases the victim will never be really rehabilitated and will for the rest of her life bear mental scars which will hamper, or prevent, her enjoying a truly happy marriage.

5. The rule of law is more severely threatened by judges who pass derisory sentences upon vicious offenders for such attitudes breed vigilantes, than by those who speak up to criticize.

6. What I am sure about is that unless society takes a stand, as I apprehend it is beginning to, against the conditioning of violence, violence will be born in the jungle of our schools, it will be fertilised by judges no longer in touch with the living, and it will spread through our land so as to cause all of us to fear to walk abroad.

Unless society does cry "enough" in no uncertain terms we shall not only see threatened both the zeal of the police to track down offenders, and their compliance with the judges' rules when they have done so, we shall cause the stigma to be raised in Parliament of minimum sentences for certain crimes of violence. This would be the hands of the bench in an intolerable manner, and almost certainly lead to a situation where they should convict.

8. As I see it, the only relevance of the Court of Appeal accepting what was said by a young subaltern and taking a course of action they should not have considered in the first place is that it may afford some insight into the state of mind of Lordships at the time.

9. Finally, I am sure I speak for the overwhelming majority of reasonable people in asking their Lordships to reconvene and state publicly for the guidance of all those of whatever age who might contemplate vicious attacks on females in the future, that the courts take not an ever less but an ever more serious view of such matters.

I remain, Sir, someone whose loved and cherished cousin can never be brought back whatever the judges may do, and is at this stage concerned only to see that her death may save others.

Yours faithfully, ALISTAIR SAMPSON, 103 Clifton Hill, NW5, July 6.

Commonality

From the Head of the Central Policy Review Staff

Sir, The accusation of illiteracy among members of the Central Policy Review Staff is too serious to let pass without rebuttal.

The Review of Overseas Representation may not be wholly free from jargon but it is not illiterate. It is not illiterate to the misuse of the word "commonality" in the way Mr. Howard describes (article, July 20). As he will see when the report is published, the word does not appear in the Review, correctly or incorrectly used. I appreciate that it is difficult for Mr. Howard to find typical pages on which to hang his admirable attempts to raise popular linguistic consciousness but I suggest that in future he waits to see that his pegs are actually protruding from the wall.

Yours faithfully, KENNETH BERRILL, Central Policy Review Staff, 70 Whitehall, SW1, July 21.

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Yours faithfully, RAY WARD, 7 Savoyers Road, Sheffield, July 20.

Conflicting interpretations of Marx

From Mr. Yorick Wilks

Sir, Lord Kaldor's political philosophy is, as he himself says of Mrs. Thatcher's economics, of a rather rudimentary kind. He tells us that "in contrast to Mrs. Thatcher (Marx) looked forward to a society in which complete individual freedom would prevail", and also that "Hegel himself was much closer to Mrs. Thatcher in his general philosophy than to Marx".

Who could possibly guess from that that Hegel's is the philosophy that captured in such phrases as "The State is the march of God through the world"? Whatever one thinks about Mrs. Thatcher's individualism, it is at the opposite pole from that, and Lord Kaldor's contrast of Hegel and Marx is highly misleading. If one remembers the dictatorial role Marx envisaged for the State before the later paradise arrived.

Yours sincerely, YORICK WILKS, University of Essex, Department of Language and Linguistics, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, July 21.

Blasphemy as a crime

From Mr. Graham Ross-Cornes

Sir, Mr. Stallybrass says (July 22) whether some genuine reader of *Gay News* was genuinely outraged by the poem, whether this reader turned to Mrs. Whitehouse for help, and will this reader now stand up and be counted.

The one witness called for the prosecution was Mr. Kenneth Kavanagh, who gave evidence that he had bought issue No. 96 of *Gay News* because he wished to read an article which it contained concerning the Probation Service of which he is a member. He was turning the pages and came across the poem.

Mr. Kavanagh did not give evidence as to whether or not he was outraged by the poem because such evidence would have been inadmissible. Whether or not he had reason to be outraged was a question which was answered by the jury.

Yours truly, GRAHAM ROSS-CORNES, 218 Strand, WC2, July 22.

Cambodia under the communists

From Mr. M. McCann

Sir, As Dr. Caldwell says in his article printed by you on July 20, changes may have been needed in Cambodia. They are needed in England too, but any rational being must question whether revolution accompanied by wholesale slaughter and dispersal is any more acceptable to the people of Cambodia than it would be to us here.

True, the life of a farmer in Cambodia under Prince Norodom Sihanouk was hard but a lot less so than in many other countries including communist ones. True also that people were in debt and grumbled against the government; but that is not unknown elsewhere. Life under the Prince was improving and it proceeded in a familiar, accepted round of custom and occasional festivity sustained by the comfort of the Buddhist faith.

Until the whole thing got out of hand, thousands of Cambodians farmed and workers volunteered to preserve the existing system from the Vietnamese invader. To my personal knowledge, this included people in protected, comfortable jobs inspired by patriotism to give up the family life which all else. Revolution, ideology and the rest did not come into it.

Dr. Caldwell says the "much swollen population of Phnom Penh, once liberated" was fed from the revolutionary stockpile which was a remarkable achievement. True it was swollen from the 600,000 of Prince Sihanouk's day to one and a half or even two million refugees from "liberation" elsewhere; but the whole lot, regardless of age or condition, were turned into the streets and driven at gunpoint into the countryside. The population today is said to be some 30,000; but I have no first hand knowledge of this.

A victim of this episode described to me how it took him and his family five hours to shuffle 700 bags down a river to escape, and three days to cover 13 miles on foot of terrible suffering and death before he managed to get himself on an ancient camion with a group of Indians to be returned to the French Embassy compound and eventually evacuated from Cambodia himself mistaken as a foreigner. The food they ate then was what they carried out, as Dr. Caldwell suggests, what the government provided. We are told that rice was indeed doled out in tiny handfuls to the survivors to keep some of them alive in this "so-called revolution". We could call this "a remarkable achievement". It depends what you mean by "remarkable".

Mr. Ieng Sary was no doubt speaking the truth in his May interview with *Der Spiegel*; but the account of Sary, Tan and Sophe, as quoted, are flatly untrue. I believe that the general effect of Dr. Caldwell's article is misleading and does no service to those who wish to know the truth about present day Cambodia, particularly the human rights aspect.

Yours faithfully, EMMA JANE CRAMPTON, 139 Elm Park Mansions, Park Walk, SW10, July 20.

Blasphemy as a crime

From Mr. Charles Bonham

Sir, In answer to Mr. Jackson's question (July 20) whether one country, which derives its philosophy from Marx, can be named "where wealth and power... is not concentrated in the hands of the elite of the ruling communist party". I can think of one immediately: China. There are no stark contrasts of wealth and poverty in that country and many communes have their own weapons and means of protection. Also there are political discussion groups, committees for dealing with the various problems of life and an emphasis on self-reliance.

All of these things would not exist under a totalitarian regime. The government in China has overwhelming popular support. As a matter of fact "Democracy" means "people-rule" and nothing could be more democratic than the People's Republic of China.

Yours sincerely, CHARLES BONHAM, 20 Beech Lane, Kislisbury, Northants.

Blasphemy as a crime

From Mr. Arthur Freeman

Sir, R. D. Holder and K. L. Dorrington complain (July 22) that the *Socialist Worker* has published two satirical poems by James Kirkup, "The Love That Dares To Speak Its Name" and "The Revolution". They appeared in *Gay News* in June 1976 and for which *Gay News* and its editor have been found guilty of blasphemous libel.

It may be worth noting that the complete poem has been published this year in *Young Liberals*, a quarterly journal of liberal, pacifist, anarchist and socialist papers—in the *Liberator* (January), *Peace News* (January 28), *Anarchist Worker* (February/March), *Socialist Challenge* (July 16), and *Freedom* (July 23)—and that copies have also been widely distributed by hand and by post ever since the prosecution of *Gay News* was begun last December.

In fact it seems that the main practical result of the case has been to increase the circulation of the poem far beyond its original readership, and it is hard to see what would be gained by any further prosecutions.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR FREEMAN, 84B Whitechapel High Street, E1.

Blasphemy as a crime

From Mr. Richard Adams

Sir, One can blaspheme only against a religion in which some people believe. Today one cannot blaspheme against e.g. Jupiter. It follows that the purpose of blasphemy is to wound and hurt other people in areas of the mind which are, to them, sacred. This is violence, likely to prove more painful to

Twelve runners have finally
and their ground for this year's

Ascot programme

1000

Plant at Dusk winning the Virginia Water Stakes at Ascot yesterday.

Newcastle programme	Avr programme
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Warwick programme

2.15 JUBILEE DIAMOND STAK
1 4-00400 Semper Nova Mrs D
2 411216 Charleston (B) Ltd

611 1111332 Captain's Wings (D) 'M. House, R. Boss, 4-7-11 P. Bogue 5
5-3 1111332 Captain's Wings (D) 'M. House, R. Boss, 4-7-11 P. Bogue 5
Yamadori, 12-1 Fighting Lady, 20-1 Silver Steel.

Ascot selections
By Our Racing Correspondent
2.15 Accelerate, 2.50 Shapins, 3.35 THE MINSTREL is specialBy
recommended: 4.10 Nutbar, 4.40 Orcis, 5.15 Blustery

41. Bargain Days (C-D), M. Canach
01. Ladies Man (D), M. Ryan, B-2

[illegible]

1	010104	Malghall, G. Hunter
2	002403	Perkins, W. Marsh

[illegible]

5	0002	Even Par; T. Marshall. 9-41 . . .
10	0	La Brea, R. Akhurst. 9-0 . . .
14	0	Minor Metal-Woods.

Newcastle selections
By Our Racing Staff
1.30 Barefoot Days. 2.6 Belle Vue. 2.30 Boldboy. 3.0 Irish Butler.
Winnicence. 4.0 New Seeker. 4.30 Ambretta.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent

recommended: 4.10 Nuth
By Our Newmarket Corra
2.15 Mandala 3.50 Sh

2.15 Mandrels. 2.16 Quenching. 2.17 Circumferential and axial stresses in
Wings.

Mary	Paddy	Leo
8-9-6	W. W.
Fighting	Brave,	g
	Alman	

5-8-12.....A. Cressy (8-1) 4 3-3-5... Ron Hutchinson (10-1)

Attachment by _____
—Aspirant (D) _____
J. _____

Lachranza -- L. Charnock (7-2), 2 Mm 1M and 1Track Hole! \$128.50.

By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.30 Cwent. 4.0 New Seeker.

1. **STUDY OBJECTIVES:** The purpose of this study was to determine the effect of a 12-week, low-intensity, supervised exercise program on the physical and psychological health of older adults with chronic low back pain.

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

Personal investment and finance, pages 18 and 19

Hopes fading for recovery of £85m state rescue grant to the Crown Agents

John Brennan

There is now little possibility the Government will recover much, if any, of the £85m grant it made available to the Crown Agents in December 1975.

The grant, which the Government has always maintained is available to be made to help the Agents after their disastrous foray into property and banking in the 1960s and 1970s. It was made conditional upon a phased and orderly withdrawal from these activities.

Mr John Cuckney, Senior Agent and chairman, yesterday said that despite the fact that the Agents' property and banking losses, including the £85m grant, are "bleeding to death" the Realization Account, which these activities have cost, is not yet closed.

In his review of this account in 1976 Mr Cuckney gave a warning that the accumulated deficit, which now totals £212m, will progressively and inevitably increase because of the continuing loss of assets and the high cost of the arrangements to be made to deal with its irretrievable loss to the Realization Account.

In sharp contrast to the disastrous Realization Account, the Agents' traditional and continuing role of providing services to overseas governments and public agencies continues to grow.

Mr Cuckney comments that, after last summer's White Paper on the future of the Agents and the constant stream of Government support from the Minister for Overseas Development, overseas principals clearly appreciate that the



Mr Cuckney: Realization Account "bleeding to death".

Realization Account... a terminal case... is totally unrelated to our ongoing services.

At the end of 1976 principals' deposits managed by the Agents reached a record £713m. And that total has since increased to £870m, £300m of which is held in sterling deposits.

The continuing business made a £10.1m surplus last year, £6.9m better than 1975 despite the uncompensated loss of the technical services operation, which has been passed into the control of the Ministry of Defence. New orders placed for principal last year amounted to £187m, of which 64 per cent went to British companies.

Financing costs of the Realization Account amounted to

£20.1m last year. But this gross total was partially offset by £11.5m interest on the Government's grant. Interest on this money over the past two years increases the Government's direct support for the Agents to £110.8m.

How much the Government will eventually have to pay to complete the wind-up of the property and banking commitment depends on the pace and success of the Agents' disposal programme. Mr Cuckney believes that this is unlikely to be completed much before 1985.

Sales brought in £11m, and last year a further £40m loss. But commitments to complete property developments and extend further loans cost £80m and the account ended the year with a net deficit of £22m compared to 1975's £62.6m, and the £128.7m loss recorded in 1974.

Negotiations are in progress for the sale of the Agents' remaining banking assets. But the main saleable asset left in the Realization Account is a portfolio of Australian properties, valued last December at £202m (£133m), £80m less than their cost to date.

Earlier this week the Agents completed the £31m sale of the largest unit property in their portfolio, the Capital Tower office complex in Melbourne, and other small sales are at the discussion stage.

But further big disposals await an upturn in the Australian property market and in the meantime completion costs for developments of £15m and holding costs making up well over half the total interest payable on the "own account" activities continue to add to the gross deficit.

Lloyds and Midland profits above forecasts

By Ronald Pullen

Lloyds and Midland yesterday reported their earnings, showing a better start to the half-year reporting season. The relative ease with which the banks have withstood the first half pressures on their domestic banking operations could well mean the old saw that the level of the clearing's profits.

But renewed demands for bank nationalization will fall on deaf political ears given the Government's unwillingness to proceed with this.

Midland's earnings jump was the more impressive, especially after the way it comprehensively outperformed the other clearing last year—with pre-tax profits 34 per cent ahead at £102.4m in the six months to the end of June. Lloyds was not all that far behind with pre-tax profits two-fifths higher at £91.1m coming at the top end of outside estimates.

In spite of seeing little growth in either deposits or advances during the period, the retail banking side of Lloyds and Midland have benefited from the widening of the spread between what they pay on deposits and charge on advances. The figures also compare favourably with the first half last year, when Lloyds' conventional charges introduced in the second half of 1976.

Midland said yesterday that the interim results were "a reflection of the continuing improvement in the quality, quantity and spread of business".

In particular, Midland's diversifications are now starting to come through more strongly. Its non-banking interests in the shape of the Bland Payne insurance broking side, the Forward Trust hire purchase company and the Thomas Cook travel business have all had a better first half.

Associated company profits, too, were almost 50 per cent higher at £14.3m helped by Standard Chartered's improved performance and, to a lesser extent, Finance for Industry's increased earnings.

Higher operating costs coupled with lower average interest rates have taken much of the gloss off Lloyds' domestic side and again the sharp rise in earnings stems from associates and the overseas banking side.

Lloyds' interim dividend has been increased by 10 per cent to 6.25p gross and Midland has boosted its half-year distribution from 7.50p to 8.71p.

With interest rates at their current low level and few signs of an upturn, neither private or industrial loan demand, both Lloyds and Midland are cautious about the second-half outlook which outsiders reckon to be below that of the same period last year.

All the same, Midland ended the day 8p higher at 288p and Lloyds was 2p up at 220p, and the encouraging outlook for results from Barclays and National Westminster next week led the whole sector firmer yesterday.

British Steel's performance attacked by MPs as borrowing limit is lifted by £1,000m

By Peter Hill

Both the Government and the British Steel Corporation came under attack yesterday over proposals to raise the corporation's borrowing limit from £3,000m to £4,000m. This concession by the Government was foreshadowed earlier this week when the BSC announced a £95m loss in its past financial year and indicated that a loss in the current year of up to £250m was in prospect.

In estimates last year, the BSC indicated that it did not expect to reach the £3,000m ceiling until early 1978-79; but it is expected that the limit will be reached by the end of this year. On present projections the £4,000m limit will be reached in the spring of 1978.

The higher figure was approved in the Commons yesterday after a 90-minute debate. Mr Tim Renton, Conservative MP for Mid Sussex, said the corporation was drifting towards disaster. He noted that the increased limit was equivalent to an £18 investment for every man, woman and child in Britain, and urged the BSC.

the Government and trade unions to agree on manning levels, productivity and working methods before any new capital was invested.

Mr Norman Lamont (Kingston upon Thames), Conservative front-bench spokesman, alleged that Government interference with the industry had been partly responsible for the huge losses by the corporation.

He said: "It is highly alarming that the Government should have had to come asking for a further increase in the borrowing powers of the corporation. We do not think that the injection of money, on which there is very little prospect of earning any dividend, is going to solve the problems."

Mr Gerald Kaufman, Minister for Industry, said that the BSC expected demand for steel to improve during the next financial year and he hoped that this would lead to the elimination of losses and return to dividends. The corporation, he said, had £1,000m worth of assets tied up in modernization projects.

The minister said it was difficult to set a meaningful financial target for the corporation. Five years ago the Government

set the BSC a statutory financial objective of earning a return on net assets of 8 per cent (before payment of long-term interest) as an average over the four years from 1973-74 to 1976-77.

The BSC's latest report and accounts showed that in the first two years the average return fell only marginally below the objective but there was no positive return in 1975-76 due to substantial losses and a return of only 2.1 per cent last year.

Mr Kaufman added: "The objective must be a return to profitability and I look to the corporation making some progress towards that. We do expect a return on the public investment." He said the BSC's £950m cash limit this year was absolute and it would have to operate within it even if trading proved worse than expected. It was against this very real discipline that the Government was prepared to meet the corporation's financial needs.

Where the corporation had modern plant it could match any producer in the world but it was belatedly facing the task of reequipping itself to meet modern foreign competition, coupled with the problems of a major world recession.

Strong mark hits Nordic currencies

By Caroline Atkinson

The Deutsche mark climbed to further heights against the dollar on the foreign exchange markets yesterday to close at 2.3575. It has gained over 1 per cent in the past week, bringing its appreciation against the dollar, since the latter began to fall, sharply three weeks ago, to 3.7 per cent.

This rise has put increasing strain on weaker members of the European snake. They have been dragged up against the dollar as the German authorities have allowed the mark to rise, although their balance of payments position does not warrant such a rise.

The Scandinavian currencies are the worst affected. Rumours that they would be devalued in a snake reshuffle have abounded in the foreign exchange markets for several weeks.

These rumours are especially strong on Fridays as changes in the snake are normally announced over the weekend.

Yesterday was no exception, with Frankfurt dealers in particular pointing to the calls from Sweden's industry for a devaluation, and to the substantial support which central banks have had to give the Scandinavian currencies.

It has even been suggested that Sweden will decide to pull out of the snake altogether. This could cause a complete breakdown of the system as the three Scandinavian currencies are so closely linked.

All three closed at record lows in Frankfurt, just above their Deutsche mark floors in the snake.

The dollar was generally weak yesterday, and the pound went down with it to some extent. Sterling's effective rate index at the close was 60.7, down 0.1 on the day. Its rate against the dollar was up 2 points from Thursday at \$1.7197.

Committee likely to compromise on simplified inflation accounting

By Nicholas Hirst

A decision to go ahead with a simplified form of inflation accounting as soon as possible will be made by the profession's rule-making body, the Accounting Standards Committee, when it meets on Wednesday.

This is despite the recent vote by members of the Institute of Chartered Accountants against the compulsory introduction of any form of current cost accounting, the system proposed by the Sandilands Committee and modified by a steering group headed by Mr Douglas Morphet, of accountants Touche Ross.

The exact wording has yet to be decided, and there is still intense debate going on with both the ASC and the Morphet steering group about what should be done, but it seems likely that Wednesday's meeting will agree on a "statement of intent".

It is hoped that this will be backed by major accountancy firms in letters to leading newspapers and possibly by the consultative committee of the ASC, which includes the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress and leading City organizations, which will be meeting after the deliberations of ASC itself.

Although the Morphet steering group does not seem to be entirely happy about the way the ASC is taking the initiative, its members are unlikely to object if it is thought that a comprehensive standard acceptable to the profession, industry and Government can be agreed in the end.

The ASC's statement will commit the profession to producing standards on accounting for adjustments to the depreciation of fixed assets in the face of inflation and adjustments to reflect the cost of sales, but a view does not yet appear to have emerged which would gain complete support on adjustments for monetary liabilities.

There is either likely to be a clause in line with the submission to the Morphet committee made by the London and District Society of the Institute of Chartered Accountants, or a more elaborate statement which could leave adjustments for monetary liabilities open as a choice to those like the banks, which feel their results would be distorted without them.

The Department of Trade (which has remained neutral) has, despite the vote of the chartered accountants, it would still be possible to produce a standard for companies with accounting periods beginning on January 1, 1979 is very pleased with the progress that has been made recently within the steering group and the ASC.

A paper has been produced by the steering group for the ASC's meeting on Wednesday asking for further guidance on what should now be done.

But its members are worried that the ASC might miss its producing crude standards as a temporary measure. This could result in the whole programme being set back once again.

The ASC's intention is for a standard to be produced, which, although supplementary, would be mandatory for large publicly quoted companies. The Stock Exchange is believed to be anxious that the profession should produce such a standard.

Meanwhile, the steering group believes it already has the bones of a standard, that would be supplementary for two years, would apply only to quoted companies and would leave out the more contentious items such as depreciation of the modern equivalent assets.

But it would include the London District Society system of accounting for monetary liabilities, and would certainly not command universal agreement within the profession, industry or Government.

Californian bank sold to Standard

Our Financial Staff

Standard Chartered Bank is purchasing Commercial Bank of California for \$7.2m (£4.2m). Based on the privately-owned bank has 13 branches, strategically based between Chartered's existing branch network in the west and south of the state. Rejected earlier this year in its attempt to acquire the Tri-State of California, and more recently to purchase some of the Bank's branches up for sale, Standard Chartered is still intent on expanding its dollar deposit base in the United States.

Chartered Bank Standard's wholly-owned Californian subsidiary, currently has four new branches under application waiting to be approved, but said yesterday at the purchase of Commercial & Farmers would enable to expand its branch network more rapidly.

SE will ask jobbers about Fairey deals

By Ray Maughan

Jobbers are to be asked by the Council of the Stock Exchange on Monday to reveal their dealings in the shares of Fairey, the engineering group.

The council is expected to decide early next week whether to call a full inquiry into recent Fairey share dealings.

It is understood, however, that the council's own monitoring staff will advise that a thorough investigation will prove useless. Joseph Sebag, brokers to the company have identified the sellers of the large lines of stock which so disrupted the market over the past fortnight. A key sale of 300,000 shares is understood to have been put through Ariel, the computerized settlement

system, which gave all subscribers information about the sale of the disposal.

Institutional holders are clearly alarmed by recent events, although many confirm yesterday that they would vote in favour of next Tuesday's resolution to increase Fairey's borrowing powers if only to keep their investment alive.

They will be seeking a meeting with Fairey's directors, headed by Mr R. W. Holder, 100, to discuss further consultation about trading prospects.

It is this information gap, more than anything else, which has angered the market and the full-time watchers of the shares. As one leading broker said yesterday: "It is essential that shareholders keep abreast of the facts with trading conditions".

Laird in unexpected £20m offer for Charringtons

By Richard Allen

Laird Group, the transport to engineering conglomerate, yesterday made a surprise £20m bid for Charringtons Industrial Holdings.

Laird is offering one of its own shares and 78p cash for every three of Charringtons ordinary, putting a value of about 54p each on Charringtons shares at last night's closing prices.

However, with investors seeing a takeover battle Charringtons shares rose 12p yesterday to close 31p above the bid value of 57p. Laird's shares eased 1p to 84p.

At that level Laird's total market capitalization of £11m is only about £10m above that of Charringtons, which has interests ranging from fuel distribution and builders merchant to vehicle body-building and distribution.

However, compared with Charringtons, Laird is cash rich,

with net liquid assets of about £6m at the last balance sheet date, and medium-term credit lines said to amount to £13m.

On top of this the group is hoping to receive between £5m and £10m in compensation for the nationalization of its Scottish Aviation plant Cammell Laird shipbuilding interests earlier this year. The cash component of Laird's bid will cost £9.7m.

Apart from both being industrial holding companies the two groups would appear to have relatively little in common, although Laird says that it identifies similar interest on the transport side. Both groups make special vehicles, and Laird is expanding its manufacture of buses and Metro-Cammell rapid transit trains.

Charringtons' warehousing and freight business are also seen as a natural extension of Laird's interests, particularly in air freightage.

Oil platform order goes to Scottish yard

A £20m order to build a production platform for the North Sea Ninian oilfield has gone to Highland Fabricators of Nigg, near Easter Ross, the operating company for the Ninian Field, confirmed the deal yesterday.

Highland Fabricators built the first of the three production platforms for the field. The company employs about 1,000 at Nigg.

The new platform is part of a £200m development programme for the field, which is 100 miles north-west of Shetland. It is due for delivery next summer.

Drilling is expected to start towards the end of 1979, and the platform should be producing oil early in 1980.

Earlier this month the McDermott yard at Ardersier, near Inverness, won a £40m platform order.

'No guarantee' for BNOC in new North Sea blocks

After the fifth licensing round, the Department of Energy has asked the British National Oil Corporation to apply for certain additional blocks in the North Sea, Lord Kearton, the corporation's chairman, said a press conference in Glasgow yesterday.

He gave a warning that although the corporation had made an application this did not necessarily mean it would get the blocks and it had been left up to them that there was no guarantee of this.

Lord Kearton would not say

how many of these blocks had been applied for. All he would say was that the number was no less than six and no more than ten and this could be "narrowed down".

Lord Kearton said two-thirds of the area had been largely allocated to private and foreign interests and it was the general opinion that unlike allocations in earlier rounds, when the most productive blocks were taken up by the oil companies, these remaining blocks were not likely to result in any major discoveries.

Import curbs on Korean TV sets

Quotas of 35,000 sets in 1977 and a further 35,000 in 1978 were imposed at midnight on imports of portable black and white televisions from the Republic of Korea.

The quotas were imposed because of the prospect of a rapid build-up in television imports from Korea. Imports from all major supplying countries are now restrained.

The Department of Trade said last night that all imports since January 1 would count against this year's quota, already well on the way to being filled.

Electricity Board awaits Benn reply on Drax order

By Kenneth Oen

Mr Glyn England, chairman of the Central Electricity Generating Board, is still awaiting a reply to his letter to Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Energy, requesting more information on the proposed order for the Drax 3 power station in Yorkshire.

A special board meeting has been called for next Friday to consider Mr Benn's request that the board bring forward the Drax order and place the turbo-generator contract with C. A. Parsons.

This request followed the breakdown of attempts to merge C. A. Parsons with the generating interests of the GEC, as recommended by the Government's Central Policy Review Staff.

Among the points of clarification sought from the Secretary of State in preparation for next Friday's meeting are details of the proposed arrangements for compensation to be paid to the board if it agrees to bring the order forward.

The Department of Energy said yesterday that it was not known whether special legislation would be needed to authorize funds for the payments.

If it is, the Government's ability to gain a Commons majority for the measure—in the wake of its controversial decision to request the CEBG to give the order to Parsons—would be in doubt.

Special legislation was used by the Conservative Government in 1972 when the Ince B power station was similarly brought forward.

GEC, Parsons's rival turbo-generator manufacturer, said yesterday that the company had not decided whether to put in an unsolicited bid for the order, but this is believed to be likely.

OECD ruling bans sub-standard ships

In Paris yesterday the Council of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development called on its 24 member governments to take all possible action to curb the spread of sub-standard ships.

An announcement said there was growing concern among maritime and coastal states of the dangers in the fields of maritime safety and marine pollution posed by ships which do not meet internationally agreed standards.

All OECD countries were asked to "undertake all necessary measures to give full compliance within their jurisdictions to the minimum standards and procedures" laid down by the International Labour Organization in its October 1976 convention on the manning of ships, and in the various conventions adopted by the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization concerning ship design, maintenance, safety and anti-pollution provisions.

While a large number of sub-standard ships may be found under flags of convenience, sub-standard, seagoing vessels under own flags pose a threat to the marine environment, the council said.

The recommendation reflects the will of member countries to base their policies on the

In brief

standards being established by the ILO and IMCO, and to work jointly towards their enforcement.

Chemical exports up

Britain's chemicals industry increased its exports by 32 per cent in the first six months of this year to a record £1,855m, according to the Chemical Industries Association. Chemical imports had also risen in the period by £333m but the trade surplus in the United Kingdom's favour reached a record £1,605m.

Prices law passed

New statutory powers to control prices completed their passage through Parliament to receive Royal Assent yesterday. With effect from August 1 a reconstituted Price Commission will have wider powers, including the ability to recommend price freezes for up to 12 months.

Job subsidy boost

More than 300 small businesses have applied for the small firms employment sub-

Fewer cars registered

Car registrations in Britain last month fell to a monthly rate of 90,000, seasonally adjusted, against 108,000 in May and 91,000 in June last year. It was the lowest rate since September 1975. In the three months to the end of June registrations averaged 102,000 monthly against 106,000 in the same 1976 quarter.

Workforce retained

Jobs are being kept going for 420 of the 1,022 workforce at the Glenfield Hydraulic Engineering plant in Kilmarnock, which is threatened with closure after its American owners Crane (UK), called in a receiver three weeks ago. Forty apprentices are among those being kept for up to 20 weeks to process a new order.

How the markets moved

The Times index: 179.12 - 0.60
The FT index: 431.5 - 2.4

Rises	
harringtons Ind	12 1/2p to 57 1/2p
states Prop	5p to 5 1/2p
arrence Scott	5p to 12 1/2p
Municipal	5p to 14 1/2p
Falls	
Mywoods	24p to 27 1/2p
tracken Mines	5p to 5 1/2p
British Leyland	3p to 20p
Coltress	4p to 4 1/2p
Jurban Road	13p to 15 1/2p
Rand Prop	11p to 20p
states rose	12 1/2p yesterday
Ginnos	5p to 5 1/2p
Jbanon	17p to 22p
Martvale Con	8p to 60p

THE POUND	
	Bank
	buys
Australia \$	29.00
Austria Sch	63.00
Belgium Fr	1.35
Canada \$	1.81
Denmark Kr	10.48
Finland Mk	7.05
France Fr	6.53
Germany DM	4.06
Greece Dr	63.75
Hongkong \$	8.30
Italy Lr	154.00
Japan Yen	475.00
Netherlands Gld	4.32
Norway Kr	9.26
Portugal Esc	68.00
S Africa Rand	1.86
Spain Pes	150.00
Sweden Kr	7.70
Switzerland Fr	4.30
US \$	1.76
Yugoslavia Din	32.25

Bank	
	sells
Australia \$	29.00
Austria Sch	63.00
Belgium Fr	1.35
Canada \$	1.81
Denmark Kr	10.48
Finland Mk	7.05
France Fr	6.53
Germany DM	4.06
Greece Dr	63.75
Hongkong \$	8.30
Italy Lr	154.00
Japan Yen	475.00
Netherlands Gld	4.32
Norway Kr	9.26
Portugal Esc	68.00
S Africa Rand	1.86
Spain Pes	150.00
Sweden Kr	7.70
Switzerland Fr	4.30
US \$	1.76
Yugoslavia Din	32.25

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Unit Trust: M & G Securities 17

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FOUNDERS OF BRITAIN'S UNIT TRUSTS

PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

The Finance Bill

Mr Healey's sudden willingness to allow for inflation

Suppose that this Saturday morning in the course of weekend shopping, you observe that the price of your favourite brand of instant coffee has been put up from 50p to 60p. Such things are not unknown. Then you will console yourself with the new thought that for the next tax year—1978/79, the Married Man's Allowance will be correspondingly upped by 20 per cent from £1,295 to £1,554.

If you are a basic rate taxpayer—at 34 per cent—then your weekly net take-home pay will increase by, say, £1.75p—not a dramatic sum, but sufficient, perhaps, to prevent you defecting towards a cheaper brand of coffee. If you pay tax at 58 per cent, you will be better off by a fiver a week.

This seems to be the practical effect of Mr Healey's acceptance on Thursday of the Rooker/Wise Clause enforcing automatically increased personal income tax allowances each year unless the Treasury,

with the approval of the House of Commons, prescribes a smaller relief.

It is the increase in the retail price index (RPI) for the calendar year 1977 which is to be effective in regulating reliefs for the next succeeding fiscal year, 1978/79: not an insignificant interval of time—long enough, it is to be hoped, to persuade manufacturers that the consumer's capacity to tolerate price rises has not been increased by this novel feature now being introduced into our tax code.

If those manufacturers were to form the dangerous view that price increases could, in future, be more readily absorbed than would imply that indexation itself would be fuelling inflation and would be the one telling argument against it.

We do not, of course, know whether Mr Healey will next year arrange for the Treasury to prescribe a smaller relief. It may be that we shall need to content ourselves then with threshold increases of say, 25 per cent of the RPI percentage,

and it may be that Mr Healey will then be putting it to us that this 25 per cent of the total is a very "generous entitlement".

By way of illustration, the thresholds for 1976/77 and 1977/78 were:

	1976/77	1977/78	% increase
Single	735	845	+15
Married	1,085	1,295	+20
Single, aged	1,010	1,120	+10
Married, aged	1,555	1,765	+13

The point is that to index fully could be a very costly exercise in terms of loss of yield. This year's threshold increases were said by Mr Healey to cost £490m and we know that the Chancellor wants to raise less from direct taxation and more from indirect taxation, presumably VAT and excise taxes on drink and cigarettes.

The following question thus poses itself: supposing that 1977 inflation triggers off

increases in 1978/79 personal reliefs, does it follow that increased personal reliefs will in turn trigger off increases in indirect taxes?

If so, will not those increases in turn trigger off further increases in the RPI, in turn triggering off increases in personal reliefs, and so on until the end of all recorded time? That would be truly counter-productive.

Having in the past canvassed strongly in favour of indexation to counter fiscal drag, it may seem ungenerous to raise such a hare now. Yet it is doubtful whether indexation of income tax thresholds has been fully thought through. It might have been wiser for the Government to have capitalised first on indexation of capital taxation—eg, some gradual ratcheting of capital gains tax, a simpler step with fewer secondary consequences.

As is often the case in our tax legislation, the authorities have acted first

(under political pressures) and propose to think afterwards, if at all.

On the other hand, there are several encouraging features about the Chancellor's sudden willingness to allow for inflation. First, once indexation is shown to be a possibility and is shown to work on a narrow front, it is capable of being extended. It is, after all, a completely new ingredient in our tax system, a recognition of the fact that we have been progressing in the wrong direction, sweeping more relatively lowly paid employees into the tax net, while shouting about clobbering the rich. This trend badly needs reversal. Secondly, any step which can be said to release cash and encourage savings cannot be at all bad. Thirdly, the administration of taxation is always more costly at the lowest levels of yield. So one most beneficial effect of indexation will be to make revenue collection in this bracket less costly.

In the United States the 1974 overall cost was 0.55 per cent of national revenue;

in the United Kingdom it was 1.95 per cent. International comparisons are always misleading, but elimination of the "big men" should be capable of improving these statistics. That there is room for improvement is undoubted.

Finally, there is the notorious power trap. Anything which extinguishes it is a good thing. The Chancellor's move is a welcome "What is the logic?" asked Mrs Audrey Wise, "of a taxation system whereby people are taxed on exactly the same amount decreed to be the official poverty line?"

The Chancellor now seems to be beginning to recognize that the question was a good one. Even though he may have acted out of motives of political expediency rather than deep perception of the principles of the matter, let us cavil, but instead give him all the credit.

Oliver Stanley

The shadow of the Dover Plan over Cannon...

"Nothing is a problem if you can plan for it." That is the philosophy of Mr Richard Ellis, the managing director of Cannon Assurance, and he has had a good number of years to prepare for the problem which is currently looming on Cannon's horizon.

Cannon Assurance, under new ownership since 1972, is the restructured and reorganized International Life Insurance Company which was the United Kingdom subsidiary of the notorious IOS (Investors Overseas Services) group created by Mr Bernie Cornfeld.

In its heyday in the sixties the IOS empire, peopled by an army of direct salesmen, was selling mutual and offshore funds of, as hindsight proved, a highly speculative and dubious nature, to investors all over the world. In the United Kingdom its activities were, by comparison, restrained.

The main activity of IOS was selling the Dover Plan. This was a linked-life insurance contract with what were, in those days, heavier than usual initial charges. As a contract the Dover Plan was without its merits and much of the criticism against it was levelled more at the aggressive selling methods involved.

With the collapse of IOS in 1972 everything changed at IOS. Mr Edward du Cann and merchant bank Keyser Uhlmann respectively acquired 15 per cent and 57 per cent stakes in the company.

Mr Ellis, an actuary with no previous connexion with IOS, himself had been brought in during April, 1971, when earlier

rumblings of disquiet about IOS and its subsidiaries grew louder.

No Dover Plan policies were sold after 1972, but what about all those which were sold when IOS's activities were at their zenith in the second half of the sixties? That is Mr Ellis's long term problem.

The Dover plan policy was a 10-year regular savings contract and over the course of the next two years no less than 30,000 policies are due to mature. More than 4,000 reach their 10-year anniversary this year and double that number in 1978, leaving 17,000 policies to reach maturity in 1979.

Not all the policyholders will take their cash proceeds. The Dover Plan contract contained various options of which the principal ones were to renew the contract—and Cannon is improving the original renewal terms—or to leave the units within the fund to continue growing in value.

Cannon is having rather better success with one option than with retaining policyholders. Last year 31 per cent elected to stay with Cannon and so far this year 21 per cent of those with maturing policies have renewed their contract and a further 24 per cent are leaving their units with the company.

Cannon's funds have been successful since the company changed hands. Its Equity and Managed Funds, measured over the past five years, are both leaders in their respective fields, particularly the latter, where there is quite a gap between its performance and that of its nearest rival. Its Property fund is third in the league table.

But, despite this and the undoubtedly healthy financial position of the company itself and the fading memories of the excesses of IOS and of its relationship to the Dover Plan, Mr Ellis and his board have to err on the side of caution in planning for a fairly large exodus of business.

The company's exposure to the forthcoming maturities must be put into perspective. At the very worst it means that about 16 per cent of the present tally of 180,000 policyholders would leave the books, at a rough guess, it would seem that the company's assets, currently £119m, would be reduced to somewhere around their 1972 level, which was £85m.

So, even allowing for the maximum number of withdrawals, the impact on Cannon Assurance of the Dover Plan maturities will not be catastrophic. If they all left, it would still remain a strongly based small to medium-sized insurance group.

However, there is little doubt that the situation is uncomfortable for Mr Ellis and all the group's employees. Some trenching is essential and by the end of this year it will have reduced its annual rate of expenditure by 25 per cent, the brunt of which will have to be borne by the staff.

Perhaps the purging would not have to be so intensive had Cannon's expansion since 1972 been greater. Mr Ellis admits that it has not been quite as good as was hoped five years ago.

The reasons are not difficult to find. No one in 1972 could have



Mr Richard Ellis, managing director of Cannon Assurance: years to prepare.

foreseen the turn of events that the insurance industry would find itself in only two years later as several groups, specializing particularly in income bonds, began to fall. Cannon emerged unscathed, but suffered in the backlash which affected sales by virtually all new and small insurance companies at that time.

There have been other factors, too, not least the troubled times that its majority shareholder, Keyser Uhlmann, has been facing. Keyser was caught in the collapse of the property market and had to be supported by the Bank of England's "lifeboat" for ailing banks. Today Keyser, much slimmer

down, is on the road to recovery, but there is little doubt that the connection is of little positive assistance to Cannon's sales force. It is particularly inhibiting, one suspects, to any substantial development of the broker market.

It is an open secret that Cannon is for sale. But another problem is belonging to this issue. There has been long-standing dispute between Cannon and the liquidators of IOS in Canada.

It is a dispute about who owned the title of the shares in the company. Cannon and Keyser and one of the upstarts is a claim against Cannon for a dividend of about £500,000.

Both sides want a settlement, but two years of acrimonious debate have not yet produced a solution. Yet, without a settlement it seems unlikely that anyone will emerge as a bidder for Cannon, much as it might be considered a good buy.

It must be admitted that the implications for policyholders of a sale or not are little remote, at least at the moment. The outflow of Dover Plan policies might have been of greater moment—but the forward planning of Mr Ellis et al means there is more shadow than substance to this problem.

Margaret Stone

Taxation: Inland Revenue pamphlets 3

Rules for running your own business

This week's article looks at further explanatory pamphlets published by the Board of Inland Revenue and available free from local tax offices. Those who are thinking of working for themselves, whether full or part-time, and know little or nothing about the tax procedures and requirements will find the 16-page leaflet IR28 *Starting in Business*, a helpful guide. It discusses businesses which are carried on by individuals alone or in partnership but not those carried on by companies.

It explains the steps to take at the outset to establish credentials with the tax office; the responsibilities if persons are employed; how the profits are assessed to tax and what records ought to be kept. There is no mention about relief for losses, but the point is made that if there are any matters not covered by the notes on which advice is needed "you should ask your accountant, or, if you have not engaged one, your local inspector of taxes".

The explanation of how registration for VAT is necessary are explained; so is the distinction between capital and revenue expenditure and the position where an asset is used both for business and private purposes. Reference is made to the class 2 and class 4 National Insurance contributions.

There are two useful appendices. One explains the fairly complicated way of taxing profits in the opening and closing years of a business and the other gives a list of companion publications available free either from the tax offices, the Department of Health and Social Security or the Small Firms Information Centres of the Department of Industry.

The liability for Class 4 National Insurance contributions is related to the year's profits and the four-page leaflet IR24 is designed to assist accountants in calculating the amount due.

Tax allowances can be claimed on assets bought for use in the business and leaflet CA1 (and the 1977 supplement) *Capital Allowances on Machinery or Plant (New System)* outlines the rules. For those in certain businesses (broadly, productive manufacturing and processing trades) tax allowances can be claimed on "industrial buildings" and here the 19-page leaflet CA2 *Capital Allowances on Industrial Buildings* is a useful guide.

Leaflet CA4 *Allowances on Scientific Research* is not relevant to most traders' partnerships but for the few who may be interested to know of its existence.

The data to which business accounts are made is for the individual to decide but having chosen a date it is usual to stick to it and compare accounts every 12 months. If a change is required, explained in leaflet IR *Change of Accounting Date*, averaging out profits as the Inland Revenue does not suffer by the change.

It is the duty of the employer to deduct income tax from pay of his employees and if he omits to do so he is held liable for the tax due and penalty may be incurred. The PAYE procedure for the deduction of PAYE is explained in pamphlet P7 *Employer's Guide to PAYE*.

For those engaged in farming there are three special leaflets: P5 *Farmer's Guide to PAYE*, for use by those whose PAYE is dealt with in their standard tax office or, as Scotland, in an Inland Revenue computer centre. For those who keep livestock IR9 *Notes on Treatment of Livestock kept by Farmers and other Traders* explains the alterations to the (the "herd basis") to treat livestock as trading stock.

Leaflet CA3 *Capital Allowances on Agricultural or Forestry Buildings and Works* outlines the types of capital expenditure that attract them. This article capital allowances. These are new to farming might find it helpful to know that there is a handy booklet called *Tax of the Farm*. This one is available from the National Farm Union and there is a charge of 80p or 40p to members.

For the construction industry the Finance (No 2) Act, 1977 introduced a new scheme for deduction of tax at source, applies to payments made to contractors for work involving construction, installation, repairs, fitting, decorating or demolition. For this purpose the terms contractor and subcontractor go very much wider than the meanings the normally have in the industry as reflected in the 57-page pamphlet IR14/15 (and 1977 supplement) *Construction Industry Tax Deduction Scheme* will discover.

Vera Di Palma

EXPLANATORY PAMPHLETS MENTIONED IN THIS ARTICLE

	Pamphlet
Starting in Business	IR28
Class 4 National Insurance contributions	IR24
Income Tax and Corporation Tax Capital Allowances on Machinery or Plant (New System)	CA1 & supplement 1977
Income Tax and Corporation Tax Capital Allowances on Buildings	CA2 & supplement 1977
Income Tax and Corporation Tax Allowances for Scientific Research	CA4
Income Tax Assessments on Business Profits Changes of Accounting Date	IR26
Employer's Guide to PAYE	P7
Farmer's Guide to PAYE	P5
Notes on Treatment of Livestock kept by Farmers and other Traders	IR9
Income Tax and Corporation Tax Capital Allowances on Agricultural or Forestry Buildings and Works	CA3
Income Tax Construction Industry Tax Deduction Scheme	IR14/15 & supplement 1976

Margaret Drummond

Back to basics: investment trusts

Gearing, believe it or not, has nothing to do with cars

Investor confusion about the differences between investment and unit trusts is a hardy perennial. Despite recent strenuous efforts by the investment trust industry to make itself more clearly understood, the small saver is likely to have less knowledge of it than he does of unit trusts. The latter may, and do, advertise for funds, while the former remains obscure.

Both movements offer a form of collective investment. Both, theoretically, seek to give the investor a stake in a wider spread of investments than he or she could obtain individually. And both offer considerable tax advantages over the orthodox route of equity investment. But there the similarities end.

In this Back to Basics series we have already dealt with unit trusts—their aims, structure, and variations in the way an investment trust operates

can perhaps be explained most simply by looking at the differences between these two forms of managed funds.

An investment trust is a public company quoted on the London or other United Kingdom stock market and is what is known as a "closed end" fund. It has a fixed capital structure, incorporating equity (or share) capital and possibly fixed interest capital, be it debentures, convertible stock or preference shares.

A unit trust, on the other hand, is an "open ended" fund where the number of shares, known as units, increases or decreases according to the size of funds attracted from or withdrawn by the public. No other form of capital is permitted.

Units in a unit trust fund are quoted daily at a valuation calculated by its managers on the market value of its investments

at the time. Share prices of investment trusts—and this is the confusing point to so many investors—are not directly linked to the market value of the investments. They are traded in the stock market on the same basis as other quoted shares.

The law of supply and demand for an investment trust company's shares governs the price on the stock market, operating quite independently from the rise and fall in its asset value, the value of the shares in its underlying portfolio. For sometime investment trust shares have traded at below asset value per share or, as it is usually known, at a discount.

The discount, the difference between share price and asset value, can—and does—fluctuate and in recent years the average discount has reached 40 per cent or more.

Uncommon it may be, but it

is not unknown for the share price to rise above the asset value—in the jargon, to stand at a premium to asset value. The rare occasions have been when a new fund, as several did in the early 1970s, holds out the prospect of a particularly glamorous asset future or perhaps when a takeover bid is in prospect.

An investment trust is a freer animal than a unit trust. It can invest in United Kingdom or overseas equities, or government stocks, as can a unit trust, but it can also hold property, land and any other less orthodox investments which are not permitted in a unit trust.

The portfolio is managed by a professional firm of managers, which will usually be represented on the board of directors, many of whom may be non-executive, which is answerable to shareholders in all the usual ways. Over the past decade investment trusts have tended to group a smaller number of professional management companies for reasons of economy.

There are no hard and fast rules on the fees charged for managing the investment portfolio. Charges range from 1 to 1 per cent of assets under management and are deducted at source. But the investor has to pay the full costs of buying and selling his shares in the stock market, including the jobber's spread.

While there is no minimum entry investment for an investment trust, it is plainly uneconomical to buy investment trusts shares—or any other kind of shares—for that matter—in very small parcels. There is the 2 per cent stamp duty on any purchase, plus 1½ per cent

stockbrokers' commission and VAT—and, if the transaction is a very small one, the broker might well charge a basic minimum commission, say £10 per transaction, which would put his fees some way above 1½ per cent.

Traditionally, one of the major advantages that investment trusts had over unit trusts was that they were able to "gear up", giving holders of the equity a disproportionately large boost in asset value per share when the value of the whole portfolio was rising. Gearing is another feature of investment trust companies which tends to send the novice investor into a flint spin. It is really not all that difficult.

An investment trust's capital can be composed of ordinary shares and fixed interest stock. The rates of interest on debentures and preference shares are fixed and this provides the "gearing" or "leverage" element in the company's capital structure.

Take, as an example, a group with £1m capital, half of it in the form of equity, half in the form of fixed interest stock or shares. The firm is invested in the usual way to make up the investment trust portfolio.

If the market value of the assets doubles, the portfolio becomes worth £2m, but equity holders will find that the proportion of the assets they hold will have more than doubled. For the fixed capital element is still £1m, while the equity element is now worth, on paper £1m—a rise of 200 per cent.

It can, of course, work just as dramatically in reverse. If the market value of the invest-

ments purchased with the original £1m capital falls to £500,000, the debenture holders and preference shareholders are still entitled to their £1m in the event of the company being wound up, but the equity holder would get nothing.

This, of course, is an extreme case and the value of the debentures and preference shares fluctuates on the stock market, though less markedly than the equity value, but it does demonstrate the way fixed borrowings have an impact on a fund's net assets a share.

Investment trust shareholders enjoy the same capital gains tax concession as unitholders. The shareholder receives a tax credit at half the basic rate of tax (at present 17½ per cent but expected to be 17 per cent in line with recent tax cut proposals) so long as the trust is approved for tax purposes.

Capital gains of £5,000 or less in any tax year can be taxed at half the investor's marginal rate of income tax, so that a basic rate taxpayer, making a small gain on selling unit or investment trust shares would be liable to tax on his gains at 17½ (17) per cent. This liability is offset by the tax credit of the same amount, taking his gains tax bill to zero.

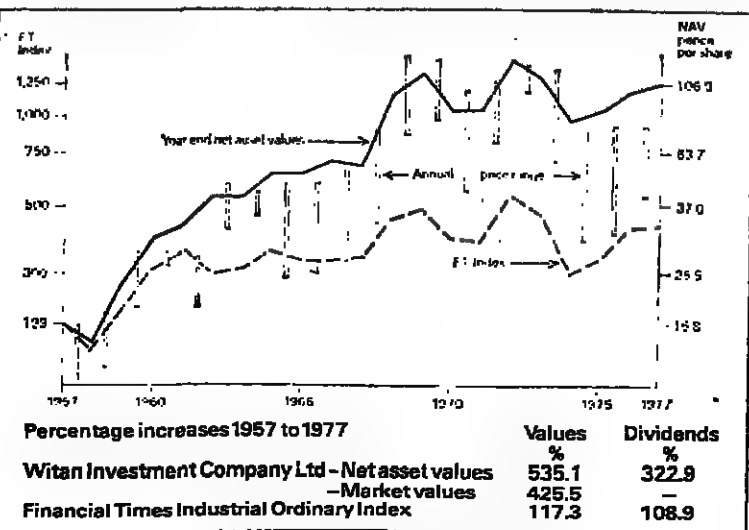
The tax credit can be offset against the full 30 per cent gains tax, which means that the maximum gains tax payable on an investment trust disposal is 12½ (13) per cent.

Margaret Drummond

Witan Investment Company Limited

"Over the past 20 years you will see that on every count, net asset value, market price and dividend increase, the Witan shareholder has done better than the Financial Times Index."

Mr J. R. Henderson, in his Statement to shareholders, highlights the Company's long term achievements, and points out that, despite the current unpopularity of investment trusts, Witan is still fulfilling successfully the function for which it was formed, namely to provide a safe and progressive haven for savings.



In the year ended 30th April 1977:
Net asset value rose from 100.6p to 106.9p, an increase of 6.3%.
Revenue before taxation increased by nearly £500,000 to £2,599,093.
A total dividend of 1.90p as against 1.65p in 1976 is recommended.

Managed by Henderson Administration Limited

Witan Investment Company Limited

Insurance

Make a policy 'paid-up'—when it's hard to pay up

Unlike the case with most expenses, there is no increase in the premiums paid to a normal whole life or endowment assurance policy once it has started. As a result, it can be argued that the cost of meeting such premiums has dropped.

Nevertheless, with so many inescapable expenses rising increasingly it is becoming necessary to cut down on non-essentials; a policy arranged chiefly as a vehicle for savings may very well fall into that category.

If it is necessary to discontinue a traditional savings-type life contract, often the immediate reaction is to surrender the policy for cash. Unfortunately, a fairly poor return is likely to be offered by the life office.

In the early years, the surrender value of a policy may be

appreciably less than the gross premium which have been paid towards it. When a policy has been running for a long time, a better figure may be realized by selling it to a third party, rather than by surrendering it.

Often the best course is not to dispose of the policy, but to make it "paid-up". This means that no further premiums have to be paid towards it and the policy remains in force—but for a reduced value. This reduced figure is payable when the policy becomes a claim in the normal way—whether at maturity or death.

In the case of an endowment policy where the number of premiums payable is known in advance, or a whole life policy where premiums cease to be payable—say, at the age of 65—most life offices reduce the

sum assured by the proportion that the number of premiums which will not be paid bears to the total premiums due. So, if five years' premiums have been paid to a 25-year £10,000 policy, the value would be reduced by 80 per cent, thus giving a paid-up value of £2,000.

Usually, if it is a profit-sharing policy, bonuses already attaching to the policy will be added to the paid-up value, without any reduction. But it does not follow that the policy will continue to share in the profits.

Understandably, many offices make it a condition that, if a policy has been converted to a paid-up one, so that no further premiums are payable, no further bonuses will be allocated to it.

On the other hand, some

offices allow policies to continue to participate in profits in respect of the paid-up value. And a few offices stipulate that a paid-up policy can continue to participate in profits provided premiums have been paid for a minimum of, say, five years.

Converting to a paid-up policy often has considerable advantages compared with surrendering it for cash. It means that the policy is still in force (albeit for reduced sum) and thus will provide some protection in the event of premature death. And, of course, the sum assured under a paid-up policy should be significantly higher than the surrender value.

If the cash obtainable from surrendering a policy is not needed, it stands to reason that normally it will be best to leave

the money invested with the life office where investment income is taxed favourably at not more than 5½ per cent, and there may be the addition of some bonuses to the sum assured in the years ahead.

Finally, if to save premium a policy is converted to a paid-up one, the loss of life cover may need to be made good. This can be achieved by means of term assurance (provided one has no health problems).

The cost of this cover should be quite low compared with the saving in premium under the main policy—provided one is happy for the term assurance to end before one gets to the age when the risk of death starts to rise quite sharply.

John Drummond

Speedy trial over book desirable

Slater and Another v Raw and Others
Before Lord Justice Megaw, Lord Justice Lawton and Sir David Cairns

A book ready for publication on Slater, Walker Securities Ltd

[illegible]

By Mr. Charles Raw, a *Sunday Times* journalist, the following subject was the subject of an urgent appeal to the Court of Appeals.

Mr. Raw, Mr. Harold C. editor of *The New York Times*, and Times Newspapers Ltd. sought leave to appeal from the refusal of the Court of Appeals to hear the matter in the morning to order that a writ of habeas corpus should be granted to the appellants in their functions made by Mr. Justice Cusack in March, 1976, in relation to the book "The Trial".

The functions have been

On June 20 the defendant applied to Mr. Justice Cusack, a judge of the Criminal Appeal Chamber, urging the dismissal of their being heard before a judge of the Criminal Appeal Chamber, urged the urgency and marked it as "Not before July 21".

The matter would be heard this day. The defendants have been and will be heard on July 21, but on the day, to their communication, the judge will not judge the matter and the matter could not.

granted on the application of Mr. Walker, plaintiffs in a proposed action for damages and alleged breach of contract, arising out of the publication by Mr. Raw of *The Sunday Times*, in connection with the investigation into their nursing careers or the affairs of Slater, Walker Securities or any of its subsidiary or associated companies, by Mr. Raw from time to time during the time he was employed by Slater, Walker Securities or any of its subsidiary or associated companies.

court refused the application but expressed the view that it was expedient that the application should be heard at the earliest practicable date, if not before the trial, then during the trial at the Long Vacation.

Mr. T. R. Bingham, QC, who appeared for the appellants, said, on behalf of the three defendants, said that he sought the court's help on a number of points. He said that his application asked that a motion issued by them last April to discontinue the proceedings be set aside to the matter over a period years with a view to publishing a statement of the facts. He said there were also wider questions on which he sought a declaration of legal principle. He said that the court should hear in time to permit publication in the autumn the first draft of the statement.

The parties were not at issue as to whether the contractual principle applied. The book was a critical book, but did not approach Mr Slater in it. Mr Slater was not approached over the years. The plaintiffs were extremely anxious that it should not be published. However, though the defendants had got through the contractual principle, they had not been giving the plaintiffs what they wanted to do, and the difficulty was that the correspondence developed in which Mr Slater and Mr Walker

and in effect, they would be giving the court no guidance at all. The court guards such that if Mr. Rawls quoted facts and opinions or used any other words, he would be criticized. They should have an opportunity to give their explanations. The court would not be in the text. Those terms were introduced over a period and the court would not be between the parties as the basis on which they were working together. The Rawls case was heard on Sunday, September 1, 1977. The court was in the Sunday Times to September, whether it should be heard.

[illegible][illegible]

In chambers on March 3, 1976, Mr. Justice Gauthier heard evidence from Mr. Raw and Mr. Slater. Mr. Raw testified that he had been involved in a number of transactions going back 10 to 15 years; and the exchange of money between him and Mr. Slater would have to consider how much of the explanations of Mr. Slater's actions would be considered as perjured. The parades were "a man's length when the contract was made" and Mr. Slater was "a person on Mr. Raw's point of view."

LOD USATICE MEGAW said that the application would be made to the court.

Afterwards, however, the parties agreed that rather than have a trial, there should be more satisfactory that the contractual provisions should be gone to and honest and bona fide effort to implement it. Most of Mr Raw's book is as to the plaintiffs in December, 1976. They individually, disagreed the terms and conditions of the contract. Mr Raw, who replied, saying

On August 1, 2012, Plaintiff's counsel telephonically contacted Defendant's counsel to raise your point and to discuss the possibility of a settlement. Defendant's counsel responded that he was not interested in a settlement and that he would be filing a motion to dismiss Plaintiff's Complaint. Plaintiff's counsel proposed to leave the matter as it is¹ and giving his reasons: "I don't want to go to court. I don't want to pay the costs of litigation. I don't want to be bothered by the plaintiffs and agreed to a lot of amendments. It was a matter of convenience." Defendant's counsel commented that he would like to convey, maybe because he was not interested in a settlement, that Plaintiff's position was not a position which no doubt took a lot of his time.

Before the current version of the Complaint was filed, Defendant's counsel would render it impossible.

passed last May, the defendants
submitted an application to discharge
Mr. Justice Caskey's injunctions.
They did so because they knew
they were not going to get a hearing
transmitted, and therefore
there would be time for the final
decision to be considered and approved.
to all the court could do, or
that and so far as it was
practicable it would be desirable
that it should be heard as soon
as possible during the course of the
forthcoming vacation.

Solicitors: Theodore Goddard &
Co.; Clifford-Turner.

A Practice Direction issued by the High Court in London on 11 July 1983 states that every originating summons applying to make a child a ward of court must contain an endorsement that it is a contempt of court, which would be to take any child named in the summons out of the jurisdiction of Wales or to Scotland, Northern Ireland, the Republic of Ireland, the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man, without the leave of the court.

There are grounds for believing that the removal of a ward from the jurisdiction is likely to occur, the Order will be prepared, and the Registrar or District Registrar of the Family Division of the High Court should be notified. The proceedings have been instituted.

Application under (ii) can be made ex parte to the registrar.

Right to welfare reports

Section 26(1) of the Children Act 1989 states that the court has the power to order that copies of welfare reports should be made available to the parties in the proceedings. The court has interpreted the rules strictly. The Law Commission had recommended in proposed Bill 1988 that the court should not be obliged to order the production of reports.

The court dismissed a father's appeal from the granting by justices of the custody of the two children of the marriage to the mother.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

[illegible]

BELL'S
SCOTCH WHISKY
"Afore ye go"

All-time		High		Low	
1957	190 03	(18.75 75)	60.18	12 12 49	
1956	171 03	(18.86 74)	59.88	12 01 07	
1955	164 25	(19 12 75)	58.42	12 07 10	
1954	138 18	(20.67 74)	56.16	12 12 73	
1953	130 28	(21.71 73)	52.99	12 14 25	
1952	106 47	(21.08 72)	51.45	12 01 17	

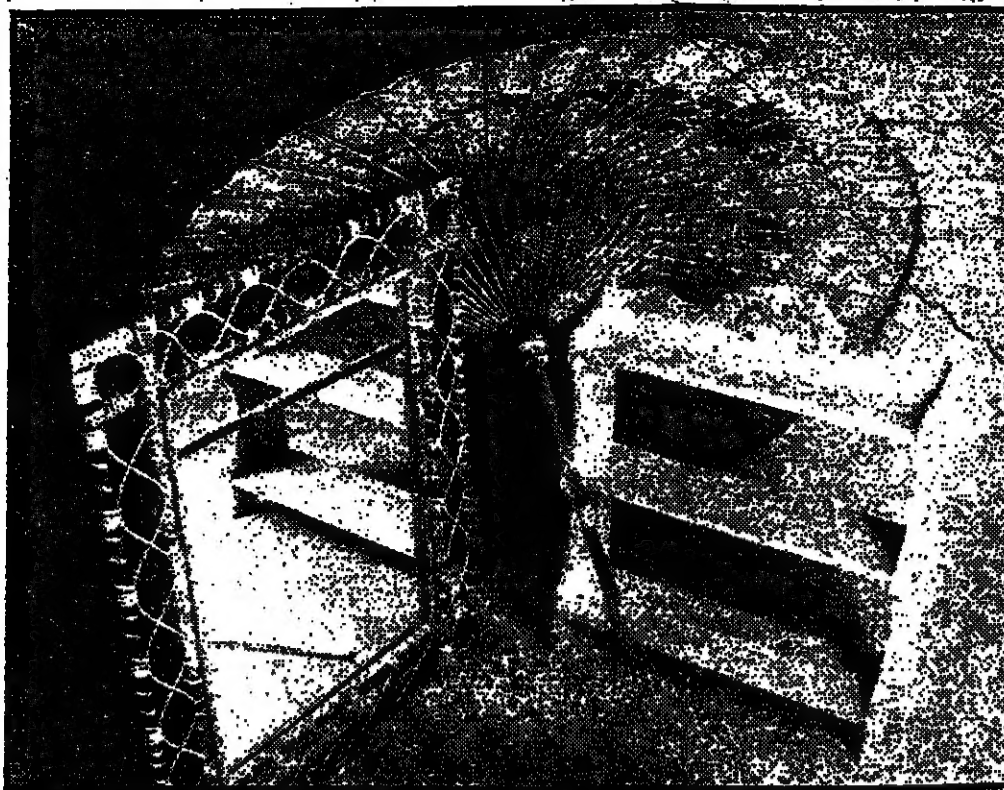
are reports

Weekend

SHOP AROUND



Sheila Black



I might end this summer looking like an apple since I seem to keep getting apple drinks, from cider to plain juice, to try. Even in Israel I was offered apple juice more often than orange or other citrus juices despite the latter being natives of that land.

The latest is Coppella Pure Apple Juice, which I first tasted and enjoyed over breakfast at the Connaught Hotel in London. Coppella tastes entirely of Cox's Orange Pippins although the "at least 75 per cent of Cox's juices" are actually balanced with the juice of tart apples like Bramleys to fix the Cox's sweetness and to enhance flavour which might seem flat otherwise.

The juice is cloudy because there is no fine filtering after the mechanical juicing and I love the fresh, pure taste as a result. It even smells of autumn orchards or apple store lofts. Any blemished apples have their faults cut out carefully by hand before

the apples reach the juicer and the land on which they grow in Suffolk is fed organically as much as possible, with pesticides kept to the barest minimum and with organic feed and fertilizer used for the trees. These latter are grown in various formations to ensure maximum yield and to facilitate harvesting.

Coppella juices were born when the Peakes, the family that runs the Boxford fruit farm, began worrying about the possible effect of the EEC on apples. There are so many good apples in Britain which may never reach the standard size for sale under EEC regulations and the juicing enabled the use of such fruit. The results are delicious and you can buy it at about 45p per 25-ounce bottle from health food shops, many supermarkets, even more delicatessen shops, all branches of Safeways and a lot of department store food halls. Distributed by Schweppes (Agencies), 200-206 The Vale, Golders Green, London NW11 8SR.

The Trustee Savings Banks are trying out templates to help blind or partially blind people to write cheques. Measuring six by three inches and inscribed in Braille, the template can be used with counterfoil or stubless cheque books and is positioned on

the cheque to open only the areas on which the cheque-owner has to write. Welcomed by the Royal National Institute for the Blind for the blind population—there are 400,000 registered as blind or only partially sighted in Great Britain. The cheque template is at most TSB branches.

Vera di Palma, FCCA, FTII, is tax correspondent for The Times besides professionally coping with the tax problems of clients who testify to her thoroughness and expertise. You can take her into your home as an adviser for a mere £4.75 including VAT and postage.

Vera has made an ingenious and useful audio cassette which guides you firmly and carefully step by step along the complex path of completing those annual tax returns which may still be lying in the domestic

or office pending tray because you cannot get around to filling them in. The tape is matched to the 1977/78 returns and obviates the need for looking up those scrappy leaflets or reference books. She uses no professional jargon, no obscure terms, no purely financial words except where they are both necessary and well known but goes through the chore clearly and comprehensively in a clear voice, with brief explanations. She makes sure that you claim every allowance that is rightfully yours, smooths your puzzled brow and builds up your confidence. Even if you have an accountant or similar professional adviser, her cassette advice is useful because it will help you to know what to collect together for him or her. The cassette's title is as simple and direct as Vera's voice and you can buy "How to prepare your 1977/78 tax return" on sound cassette for £4.75 from Mobile Training and Exhibitions, Knights Place, Warwick CV36 5PG (telephone 060 864370). It may sound trite to remind you to give your name and address but you would be surprised by the number of people who write to order merchandise without doing so, and the poor company is landed with a bad reputation for belated dispatch. Many have to write letters c/o the payer's bank and thank heaven for account numbers since the cheque writer's name is not always legible and there are still some cheques not printed with names. Postal orders are the worst because there is no way of identifying the sender and selling firms have to wait for annoyed letters.

At Divertimenti you can find everything you might possibly need for jamming, preserving and putting up fruit and vegetables in any shape or form, together with a book on making cheeses, farm style, at home. The cheese kit is a lot of money—the press and mould are £48.50 and there are many accessories that add up to something around £85 to £90—the book itself is £3.75 plus 65p postage. The way cheese is rising in price, the kit just might prove itself for those with access to unlimited milk. For myself, I like to buy cheeses by the truckle (5lb or about 7 or 8lb), fresh from the Somerset farm and at the same price per lb as cheddar cheese in shops. Strong, yet not so strong that it burns lips and palate, the Cheddar cheeses from Somerset are delicious, soft on arrival, easy to keep, slow to crumble or go hard, and very moist. They have so many regular customers that you often have to wait your turn for an order, or even to get on to the list and you certainly need to start placing Christmas gift orders right now. But they make original presents, these truckles of cheese, and think how many meals you can make with cheese, as our TV sets keep

trying to prove. Just now, with many people on holiday, the cheese queue might be shorter so do telephone or write to Chetton Priory Farm Shop, Priory Farm, Chetton Mendip, Bath, BA3 4NT, Somerset (Chetton Mendip 560). My last 8lb truckle (the name for a round, muslin-encased cheese) was £5.44 but it shares or lasts well and is worth the postage for the condition in which it arrives as well as for the better flavour. Divertimenti is at 68 Marylebone Lane, London, W1. Among my favourite kitchen shops are the two little Cucina branches at 4 Ladbroke Grove, near the corner with Holland Park, and at 8 Englands Lane, Hampstead, London, NW3. Both are stuffed with mugs, mugs, mugs, plates and bowls, mainly for kitchen and garden and both do leaflets for mail order, with good descriptive drawings and updated prices—the mail order from the Hampstead shop. A spaghetti server, reminiscent of a worn bath brush, is every bit as useful as it is fun to stand in your jar of wooden kitchen spoons and other tools—I always think the wooden things look and keep best standing up in a jar or wooden box and bet them in drawers where they are hidden. Furthermore,

wood dries slowly and should not be shut away in case it acquires a slight mustiness—open-aling in an open jar prevents this. This one costs 89p plus 21p postage and the wooden times really do make serving spaghetti easy if, like me, you cook it in the longest strips you can find.

The bamboo mirror is pretty anywhere, in cloakroom, spare or girl's bedroom, garden room or where you will. The Chinese umbrella is good for garden days and rather an attractive item of decor for garden rooms if hung so that it can be readily taken down for use—£28.35 for the mirror and £3.88 for the umbrella (70p postage). The mirror also, is only for personal shoppers and cannot be mailed for obvious reasons.

At Cucina you will find everything little shelf units, plenty of plant pot holders of which the Portuguese ones will tempt you with their charm despite the price. Lovely turquoise globes that hold African vases or wine, aprons of all kinds, those delightful Spongy reproduction coffee grinders, tube squeezers and all manner of case products abound at both Cucina so, if you cannot visit to spend, do send for the leaflets—14p in stamps—and shop from wherever you are.



Trevor Sutton

The Times Special Offer

A toast to the craftsman's art

There was so much demand for our special jubilee offer pewter plate, cast from an original mould by James Yates, master pewterer of the late eighteenth century, finished by hand and embellished with the Yates touchmarks at Pewterers' Hall as well as the crowned X, the mark of supreme quality, that we thought it would be nice to offer a goblet to go with it. A Yates goblet, of course. The goblet bears the jubilee symbol and dates but the coat of arms is a "special" for which per-

mission had to be obtained from the Chamberlain's office—the difference is in the flowers at the feet of the animals.

The goblet is, of course, made from modern pewter—95 per cent tin to 4 per cent antimony—and has the dull gleam of modern pewter, a gleam missing from the old leaden pewter. The goblet is a darkish but noble colour, and the shape is one that gave rise to the majority of pewter goblet shapes of the 1780s as well as to modern counterparts. As

with the plate, it is cast from an antique mould and finished entirely by hand.

If you have never drunk from pewter, I can recommend it. Today's pewter is easy to wash and keep clean, lovely on the table and nothing like the leaden tankards of old which were fine for beer but just not for fine wines. Yet pewter is the perfect material for drinking light or fine wines and our connoisseur I know always serves champagne in pewter, in small glass-bottomed tankards or beakers.

Pewter keeps drinks cold (or hot) and adds no odd taste to even the lightest of wines. The rim is neither cold nor sharp to the lips as silver often is, and the hand is better insulated from the temperature of the drink than with silver. It is terrific for mulled wine, which is coming back into fashion as a way of serving inexpensive wines, especially as winter encroaches into summer months. If serving with a red wine, lay the goblets out well in advance and they take on the exact temperature of the room and of the wine. For cold wines, they are excellent as they are but some people put them in the refrigerator for a short time before laying the table.

The shape is one of those that settle comfortably in the hand, and the weight is beautifully balanced. It holds a really generous glass, and is equally good for serving cold water or lager.

We photographed it with the plate (10 1/2 inches diameter) to remind you of the latter and to show you how they live together in perfect harmony. Each goblet costs £21.50—lot of money but a very good price for the hand-crafted piece and at least it can never break, needs little or no cleaning and could last for ever as an heirloom for children and grandchildren.

The plate, which was £27.50 during March, April and May, is now £29 for new customers and much of the blame rests with the price of tin which has followed the skyward path of so many commodities. The price includes postage and packing.

Those who live in or visit London can see both goblet and plate at The Pewter Centre, 87 Abingdon Road, London W8 (01-937 4118 or 01-373 7025). Orders to The Times should take no more than a month for delivery and you can see both plate and goblet at The Times offices (provided you can meet all the security regulations so be sure to have some identity with you or at least bring this article with you). Christine Westwood, at New Printing House Square, London WC1 (01 837 1234 extension 500) will answer any questions. Do not send orders directly to Christine or this address, please, but to the address on the coupon. Only British addresses can be supplied except by special arrangement and extra postage or delivery charges.

A Times reader wrote to tell me of the inexpensive joy his family had got from Whiz rings. His description enabled us to give Hamley's enough data to identify it and we had it sketched as our choice for summer holiday toy for most ages. It is so lightweight that it adds nothing to the impediments of summer outings and picnics, more often gets brought in from the garden than left out to catch under the mower because children love either to whizz it or to bounce it back towards home as they are called in at close of play.

The Whiz ring has a wide rim (nearly two inches) which is concave on one side and obviously convex on the other. You can become skilful about whizzing it so that it curves around trees or posts, runs fast or slowly through the air and it is a good game to try to propel it slowly and to catch it before it lands, chasing it only after starting the whizz. You can throw it at the floor and bounce it, or you can bounce it off walls and see

that it never hits the floor. Or, wherever you bounce it you can play at chasing it and keeping it airborne after the first bounce. Play horseshoes by trying to ring a post or nub of a tree branch or some such target. Use it in the water, throw two together and generally spend hours with the thing. Larger ones are nine inches in diameter and cost 38p for three, while the smaller ones, six inches in diameter, are three for 28p (ask for Mini Whiz ring) and both can be whizzed for up to 100 feet. Hamley's mail by mail for 15p postage up to two sets from their address at Regent Street, London, W1.

It is not easy to buy such cheap fun these days. I am sure most toyshops have them and they are packed in three—red, yellow and blue plastic rings together. Adults throw them for the other to catch on his or her arm, toddlers seem to use them as floating lifebuoys for lightweight, waterproof dolls and animals. Made and marketed by Hales, PO Box 33, Harrow Brook Road, Hinxley, Leicestershire.



I never knew whether or not Swish products called themselves that because they look just that or because the original curtain tracks resulted in the gentlest swish at a time when most other curtain rails were clattering rather noisily. Both would be good reasons and their new kitchen dispensers of aluminium foil, cling film and paper towels live up to Swish standards.

The cling film dispenser prevents that insane maddening curling of this uncannily recalcitrant material by locking the material while cutting the edge. The same action does make for neater rip-offs with all three materials although the other two behave better than cling film. The white plastic casings have acrylic facades in either smoky grey or clear browns and all are designed for wall-fixing or fitting to worktops. The kitchen towel dispenser is 9 inches long and costs about £4.17. The cling-film version is 12 inches and £3.60 while the extra-wide foil or greaseproof paper model is 22 inches long and about £5.10. Stockists include Harrods, John Lewis at Oxford Street and one or two branches, Fenwick and other leading stores or kitchen supply shops.

Please complete the coupon carefully—UK addresses only. Normal delivery within 28 days from receipt of order. Queries, not orders, to Christine Westwood at 18 Ogle Street, London W1P 7LG or on 01-637 7851.

Send to: Jubilee Pewter, Selective Market Place, 18 Ogle Street, London W1P 7LG.

I would like Pewter Plate(s) at £29.00 each and Pewter Goblet(s) at £21.50 each. My cheque/PO for £..... made payable to Selective Market Place Ltd., is enclosed.

Name

Address

Postcode

Times Newspapers Limited,
Reg Office,
New Printing House Square,
London WC1X 8EZ
No agents England.



From Saturday, July 30, you can see a superb exhibition of glass and china at Harrods. A magnificent new collection of Boehm porcelain is based upon some of the treasures of Tutankhamun. Some of the pieces, in limited editions, will cost money—in all the prices range from £23 to £1,808.

Nearly 150 Doulton figurines will be there to represent the company's complete range and to be sold as a special collection for £2,700, but this will also be 10,000 Doulton figurines to be bought individually. Delicately decorated Minton fine bone china in white and pale blue from the "Pate sur Pate" pattern which has a raised gold design. Haviland of Limoges shows "Bahrain", a clear red pattern also with 24 carat raised gold. Each piece can be created for £3.50 extra. Then there will be a Dresden coffee service in the "Marie Antoinette" pattern and some unusual porcelain, also from Dresden. A unique collection of Waterford, designed by the crystal cutters themselves, show a wide variety of the best in crystal cutting but prices begin at £125.

Webb Corbett's full lead crystal includes a hand-engraved wine service for eight, exclusive to Harrods and priced at £1,838 among other pieces for less money. The display is fantastic and well worth a visit even if you plan only to stand and stare. Open until September 17.



If you have been watching figures at auction sales you may have noticed that glass paperweights have boomed beyond most other objects. Spink, devotees of the paperweight at anything from £7 to £70,000, according to whether you buy modern or antique, has designed a jubilee paperweight, beautifully made in rich purple with pink roses separating groups of four green canes which run to a total of 20 canes to frame the Queen's face while 25 canes surround the whole perimeter to celebrate the 25-year reign. One of the jubilee's better offers at £250.

Sundays of solar energy should see the Solar Show in the grounds of Bedford College, Regents Park, open from 10 am to 7 pm daily until July 31.

MOTOR CARS

RANGE ROVER. 1976. Sahara du with black vinyl trim. Even conceivable extra including tail made (detachable). Safari rail rack. Truly superb condition. £7,500. —Phone Dan. EN (Herts) 359 (evenings).

(continued on page 16).

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